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Some gay-friendly companies have commercials on first show.
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'Paragraph' indent
Friedman & Epstein's 'Paragraph 175' at Castro.
see Arts section



BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 30 • No. 37 • 14 September 2000

Serving the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender communities since 1971

Falcon Studios owner Chuck Holmes dies

by Cynthia Laird

Chuck Holmes, well-known video producer, philanthropist, and advocate for gay and lesbian rights, died last Saturday, September 9 from HIV/AIDS-related complications. He was 55.



Cynthia Laird

Chuck Holmes

Local and national community leaders were deeply saddened by the news.

"Chuck's life was an inspiration to us all. His memory will be embraced as one of imitable generosity and unparalleled compassion," Assemblywoman Carole Migden told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "His homespun midwestern charm was a gift to all that were lucky enough to know him. I will miss my friend dearly."

Bob Ross, publisher of the *B.A.R.* and a friend of Mr. Holmes's for more than three decades, recalled the early days of Falcon Studios.

"When a close friend of over 30 years passes away you find yourself in a void, trying to think of all that you have shared. In the case of Chuck, there are so many laughs in the beginning of his filming days, how he used to lure most of my waiters and other personnel from the old *P.S. Restaurant to star in his flicks," Ross said.

Ross said that he and Mr. Holmes at times argued over politics and political personages, but remained friends through it all.

"What it all boils down to is that he was simply a fine human being," Ross continued. "A more generous person you couldn't find."

Ross added that over the years,

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Femme-vitale!

Join the celebration of the new Women's Building

by Katie Szymanski



Jane Philomen Cleland

A happy Teresa Mejia stands in the new lobby at the renovated Women's Building, which has its open house this Friday, September 15.

After six years of planning and construction, the most beautiful building in the Mission is ready for business. This Friday, September 15, the Women's Building will tear down the scaffolds and unveil the results of a two-year, $6 million renovation and seismic retrofit. A community open house begins at 5 p.m. and runs through 9:30 p.m. The event features food, entertainment, and a tour of the building's many offerings.

"We did it!" said Teresa Mejia, executive director of the Women's Building. "We are so proud of the results of the years of hard work from the staff, volunteers, community foundations, and women. We are ready to celebrate, and Friday is our day."

Headline entertainment is the music of The Wild Mango, and other music will be provided by the Women's Philharmonic, Out on a Clef, Handmaiden America, Shalonda Smith, Los Cenzontles, and Christina Trujillo. There will be drop-in child care by reservation, with face painting and storytelling for kids 2-5 years old. Food will be served throughout the building, and includes treats from the Slanted Door, Jardiniere, 3 Ring, Autumn Moon Cafe, Bi Rite Market, Blowfish Sushi, Bruno's, Butterfly, Cafe Cuvee, Corison Wines, E&O Trading, Ferrari Winery, Full Bloom Baking Company, Elyse Winery, Judd's Hill, Liberty Cafe, Picaro Cafe, Joseph Schmidt Confections, and ZD Wines.

Guests are invited to tour the building and meet its tenants, such as Mujeres Unidas Y Activas, the Riley Center, BRAVE/Defending Ourselves, Children of Lesbians and Gays Everywhere, the National Organization for Women, Girl-Source, Women Against Rape, and *ICON/DykeSpeak*.

Additionally, guests are invited to bring a photo or memory of a woman to be honored in the Every Woman's Room. And as a bonus, the building's muralists will be on hand to explain their latest additions to the building; the outside murals, as if they weren't stunning already, have recently welcomed some new art work.

The Woman's Building opened in 1979 as the first woman-owned community center in the nation and currently offers child care services; programs for youth and adults, gay and straight; and public meeting spaces. While the building has been in operation throughout construction, the new improvements mean that several more groups and activities can meet there, and programs will be expanded.

Tomorrow's event is free to the public, thanks to the generous funding of Wells Fargo, Pacific Bell, Citibank, Pro Event, and Providian Financial. That's right folks, all that food, music, and culture is free, so get yourselves to 18th and Valencia; public transportation is recommended. For more information about the event or child care reservations, call (415) 431-2737 or (510) 532-7700. ▼

Shockey, but true, in District 10

by Terry Beswick

It was a longtime friend of Mayor Willie Brown who asked the burning question on many people's minds at a recent forum for supervisorial candidates from District 10, where 47-year-old Larry Shockey has entered the crowded race to be on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors.

"Charlie Walker asked the non-black candidates how we could represent a black district," reported Shockey, an openly gay man who is of European descent. "A lot of people thought the question was racist, but a lot of my friends ask it, too."

Whites are in the minority in the sprawling district anchored by Bayview-Hunters Point along the Bay, Potrero Hill to the north, Portola and Silver Terrace, and part of Visitacion Valley in the south. African Americans comprise the largest group in the district.

Shockey, an attorney in private practice and a homeowner in District 10 for eight years, said that he responded to Walker, who has been embroiled in a minority-contracting scandal under investigation by the FBI, that he has many of the same problems accessing services that other residents have.



Rick Gerharter

Larry Shockey

"I can't get a taxi when I need one. I can't get a pizza delivered. I can't get on the bus easily to get to downtown. My bank and my grocery store are across town," Shockey told the *Bay Area Reporter* in a September 11 interview. "And if I had kids, they'd have to go across town to get to school. I don't think of myself as a gay white man living in the district."

And if anyone else thinks of him that way, he said, "I certainly don't think I have Charlie's vote."

While race may be a factor in the campaign, the candidate nevertheless said that he has experienced no homophobia from the other candidates or residents. Yet sexuality-based voting also will not help his candidacy much, as Shockey estimates that openly gay or lesbian residents make up just 1 or 2 percent of the district.

Running on a platform emphasizing equitable access to city services, Shockey said he wants more of the district's tax base used to support programs in the area, which has one of the highest unemployment rates and the lowest median income in the city.

"This district has been needy and underserved for the last 40 or 50 years," said Shockey, noting that 54 percent of the district's residents are property tax-paying homeowners – a higher percentage than anywhere else in the city. "Millions and millions of dollars go to downtown interests."

"It's no wonder we have youth gang problems," he said.

In particular, Shockey said that he wants more city programs directed at young people in the district, including a network of child care centers, after-school programs in city

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A teacher for a change

Candidate brings experience to race

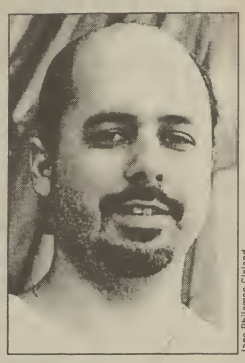
by Katie Szymanski

There's not a lot of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender attention directed toward the school board race, but there should be. For as much as the San Francisco Board of Education is about ensuring that the next generation grows up informed and committed to action, the campaign is also yet another reflection of how big money has influenced this city in something as basic as education.

It's time to change the politics behind our school system, says Mark Sanchez, one of four known openly gay school board candidates, and one of two with public school experience. Believe it or not, there has not been an actual public school teacher on the school board since Tom Ammiano served in the early 1990s. That and the fact that there are a few dirty deals lurking in the shadows was enough to propel Sanchez into the race.

Sanchez, an eight-year resident of the Mission District with the past seven years invested in the San Francisco Unified School District, is an activist, teacher, leader, and progressive, endorsed by both Ammiano and Matt Gonzales, the former district attorney candidate now running for supervisor in District 5. Sanchez taught until June, and is now enrolled in the Ph.D. program at the University of California, Berkeley, studying education policy with a focus on urban school finance.

His message is simple: fight for what is right, no matter what. He is a founding member of Teachers4Change, the group now famous for its demonstrations last fall in which teachers had to beg on the streets for school supplies. His efforts there – combined with his relentless advocacy for teacher raises – earned him the disdain of his own union, which wanted to advocate for less of a pay increase. This was a move that would ultimately hurt the students, according to Sanchez.



Jane Philomen Cleland

Mark Sanchez

"Up until last year, San Francisco was starting its teachers at $31,000 a year," Sanchez explained. "How do they expect to attract and keep the best teachers if they can't even afford to live here?"

Additionally, since "all the good teachers" spend about $1,000 a year of their own money on supplies for their kids, Sanchez advocated for the schools to start spending more on the basics, like pencils and paper.

"They spent $19.85 per student per year, and that wasn't changed for 19 years," said Sanchez. That minimum is now up to about $40 per student.

Sanchez was also involved in the fight against Proposition 21, the ballot-initiative-turned-law that would incarcerate his students for acts that many believe deserve intervention and rehabilitation. Teachers4Change will host a dinner tomorrow (Friday, September 15), from 6-8 p.m. at 65 9th Street to help build partnerships between students and adults in the fight to "educate, not incarcerate."

Most disturbing to Sanchez are the backroom city deals that put money into the hands of the powerful at the expense of the children. He's talking about privatization, which is where a company moves in to take control of a school, gets money from the state, and turns a profit by not spending as much on the basics. Who would be for such a plan? Anyone with a financial stake in corporations like the Gap, which is a major supporter of the Edison Project, the company now running a Noe Valley elementary school. It should be noted that Edison usually refuses to run schools in states that have such a poor track record in pupil spending (California ranks 41st in the nation), but business deals with San Francisco investors allowed an exception. And it's almost no surprise that this experiment is at a school with predominately minority students. If Sanchez is elected, the board will finally have the majority needed to combat such measures, he said.

"The existing school board voted for privatization, and we lost 20 teachers last year because of it," said Sanchez. "That should tell them something."

"The issues of the classroom should always be up front. The people making policy are not always aware of those issues. I believe I'm the candidate to bring them to the table."

San Francisco voters will soon be asked to choose four candidates from among 12 who are running. Sanchez hopes that come November, voters make their choices wisely. ▼

Those interested in working on Mark Sanchez's campaign can contact him directly at (415) 550-9398. His Web site, www.marksanchez.com, will be up and running within the next few weeks.

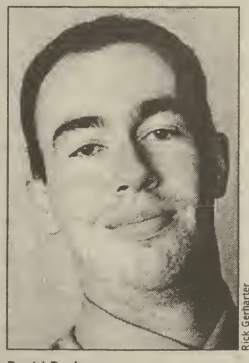
School board candidate wants to end infighting

by Cynthia Laird

Though he's lived in San Francisco for just two years, David Parker wants voters to know that if he's elected to the San Francisco Board of Education, he will beef up accountability when it comes to the school district's finances, which are by most accounts in shambles.

The openly gay Parker, 24, is running a grassroots campaign, and he's got clear goals and visions about how to improve the school district. One of the first things he'd do is end the infighting.

"After the 1998 election, I started to read more reports about our failing school board, and that more and more 'out' students were being verbally harassed," Parker said. After that, he started attending school board meetings. "I was horrified and angered when I saw how our parents and teachers were treated. When the time came for the public to address the school board, a few members of the school board left the room.



Rick Gerharter

David Parker

Another talked on his cellular phone. Another looked into space with a bored look," Parker said.

"The teachers and parents were outraged and the school board members don't care, because they think they will be re-elected, no matter what. They are wrong. This is why I am running."

There are four seats up this November and two incumbents – Juanita Owens and Steve Phillips – are not seeking re-election, so there will be at least two new board members from a field of 12 candidates. Parker is one of four openly gay candidates in the race.

"I think that people in the 'Generation X' community are misrepresented and underrepresented in the community and in politics," Parker told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "I think the candidates are out of touch with gay people and it's time to put fresh faces on the school board."

Parker is currently going through the application process for the San Francisco Police Department. He also volunteers with the Stop AIDS Project. And, since February, he's been campaigning; Parker said he will raise between $3,000-$5,000 for the race.

Before moving to San Francisco, Parker lived in Annapolis, Maryland for three years. During that time, he volunteered at several nonprofit organizations and spoke before a state House Judi-

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Late-night club advocates hope poll will bolster support

by Ed Walsh

The San Francisco Late Night Coalition hopes a newly released poll will help bolster political support for the sometimes embattled all-night dance clubs.

On Monday, September 11, the coalition held a news conference in City Hall to release the poll results showing widespread support for late night entertainment venues. Among the key findings:

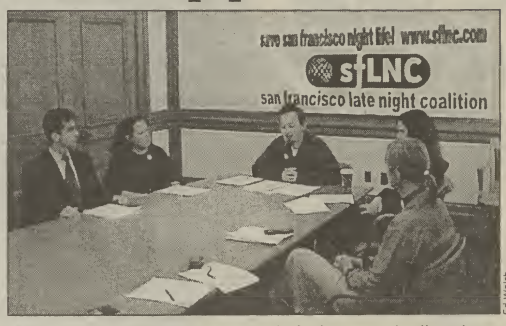
• Sixty percent of those surveyed agreed that clubs should be allowed to stay open past 2 a.m. as long as they didn't serve alcohol.

• Fifty-six percent said they would be more likely to vote for a candidate for supervisor if the candidate pledged to work to protect nightclubs and live music venues from closing.

• Eighty-six percent agreed that music and dance clubs are an important multicultural institution.

• Sixty percent said the permit process should be taken away from the San Francisco Police Department.

• Eighty-four percent agreed that music and dance clubs are an important part of San Francisco's culture and economy and deserve the same respect as other businesses.



Ed Walsh

Members of the San Francisco Late Night Coalition unveil poll results as Supervisor Mark Leno, left, looks on.

"These findings prove what we've been saying all along," said SFLNC political organizer Nick Fynn. "San Francisco is proud to be a nighttime city. Clubs are a vital part of our social fabric and deserve the same level of respect we give to other San Francisco industries."

The press conference was attended by Supervisor Mark Leno and 6th District supervisor candidates Joan Roughgarden and Hank Wilson.

Leno said the poll was more validation for his work to establish an entertainment commission that would take over the permit process from the Police Department.

Roughgarden and Wilson told the *Bay Area Reporter* they strongly support Leno's plan.

"Anything that we can do to support the late-night industry will help magnetize tourists, that's what fuels our economy," said Wilson.

The poll found only 8 percent of respondents said they were frequently bothered by loud music from clubs. The survey said that car alarms were the worst noise annoyance with 56 percent of those surveyed saying they were frequently bothered by them; car horns were a close second at 56 percent, followed by police and emergency vehicles at 50 percent.

The survey of 400 likely San Francisco voters was conducted last month by the David Binder Research polling firm. Fynn told the *B.A.R.* that the poll cost SFLNC between $11,000 and $12,000. The survey had a margin of error of 4.9 percent. Seventy-five percent of those polled said they were heterosexual, 11 percent identified as gay, 3 percent as bisexual, 2 percent as lesbian, 1 percent "other," and 9 percent refused

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Drug education goes to gay clubs this weekend

by Ed Walsh

The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence and DanceSafe will be combining forces this weekend to distribute harm reduction drug education cards for the first time at gay clubs.

"Right now our plan is to visit the lines at Endup and the Cafe on Friday, Club Universe on Saturday, and possibly gay/lesbian day at Waterworld on Sunday," organizer Will Roscoe told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "This occurs against the backdrop of a continuing police crackdown on SOMA clubs, which has made it difficult to launch drug education and harm reduction work in these venues.

"Just this past Saturday, I witnessed a friend of mine carried out of Club Universe unconsciousness - another drug overdose. This happens two, three times, even more, every weekend. DanceSafe has been pioneer in developing non-judgmental drug education. The Sisters, of course, have a long history of harm reduction and education work," Roscoe said.

The distribution is being sponsored by an ad hoc coalition of the Sisters, DanceSafe, and klubz.com, a Web site devoted to the local dance music scene. Roscoe writes the PartyWise column on harm reduction for klubz.com.

Roscoe hopes this weekend will be the beginning of a continued campaign in the gay dance community.

"We're hoping to inspire more people to get involved in this work and to do it on an ongoing basis," he said. ▼

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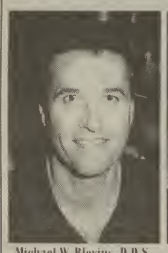
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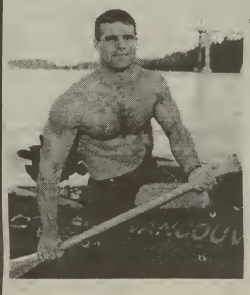
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Marc Geller

State Assemblyman Kevin Shelley, left, on Tuesday, September 12 presented a check for $1.25 million to Dr. Paul Volberding, right, director of the University of California San Francisco's Positive Health Program at San Francisco General Hospital. The funds were awarded to UCSF's AIDS Research Institute during the recently completed legislative session and Shelley, Assembly majority leader, was instrumental in securing the state money that will be distributed among ARI's programs, including clinical care and research. ARI is an institute without walls that encompasses all UCSF AIDS programs under a single umbrella.



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O boy

Lawrence Ozoa is new LGBT liaison

by Katie Szymanski

Pssst ... gotta problem? Lawrence Ozoa would like the city's lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community to know that they have a friend in City Hall.

Ozoa, 27, is the new LGBT liaison to Mayor Willie Brown. He replaces Rebecca Prozan, the liaison for the past two years. But Ozoa, who is half-Filipino, will fulfill extended duties, representing LGBT people and residents of District 8, as well as San Francisco's Filipino community.

"It's a lot of work," Ozoa told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "But it's going pretty well, and I'm enjoying it. I like helping people."

Ozoa joined the mayor's staff on August 7, after a brief stint with a dot-com company that robbed his soul but gave him a much-needed break from activism. Prior to that, he oversaw the HIV prevention program at Lavender Youth Recreation and Information Center for two years. He comes to the liaison position as "very green ... I wasn't too familiar with the position, but I believe that can be asset on certain levels. I have a community background, rather than a political one."

He is a five-year resident of the Castro, which comes in handy when it's time to work in conjunction with the district's neighbors.

"I know a lot of people there already," he said.


Jane Philomen Cleland

LGBT liaison Lawrence Ozoa

Ozoa's duties include navigating people through complex city processes, acting as a moderator between constituents, and sniffing around – sometimes literally – for problems that need addressing.

"I did a walk-through of the Castro last week and found some areas that smelled like urine," he said. "That needs attention. There are also some signs that need updating ... that kind of thing."

There are also "a lot of constituent issues that seem to have been left behind. I'm working on catching up on that stuff."

One such issue is the ongoing battle over a proposed queer youth shelter for 2500 Market Street. Ozoa said he is working with neighbors to address their concerns.

Another duty of his is meeting and greeting those who live on the streets of the Castro.

"I give them my card and offer my assistance," he said. "I already know many of them by name."

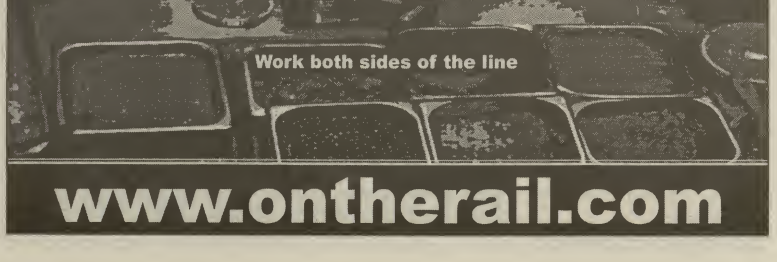
The mayor told the *B.A.R.* that he is "very pleased" Ozoa has joined his staff. "I am told that Lawrence, as a gay Filipino, is the first person of color to serve as the mayor's liaison to this important and strong community. His past involvement with gay and lesbian youth and HIV prevention services as well as his appreciation of the community's diversity will be tremendous assets," said Brown.

For Ozoa, the position offers him an opportunity to do what he loves to do and put his communities' concerns at the top of the to-do list.

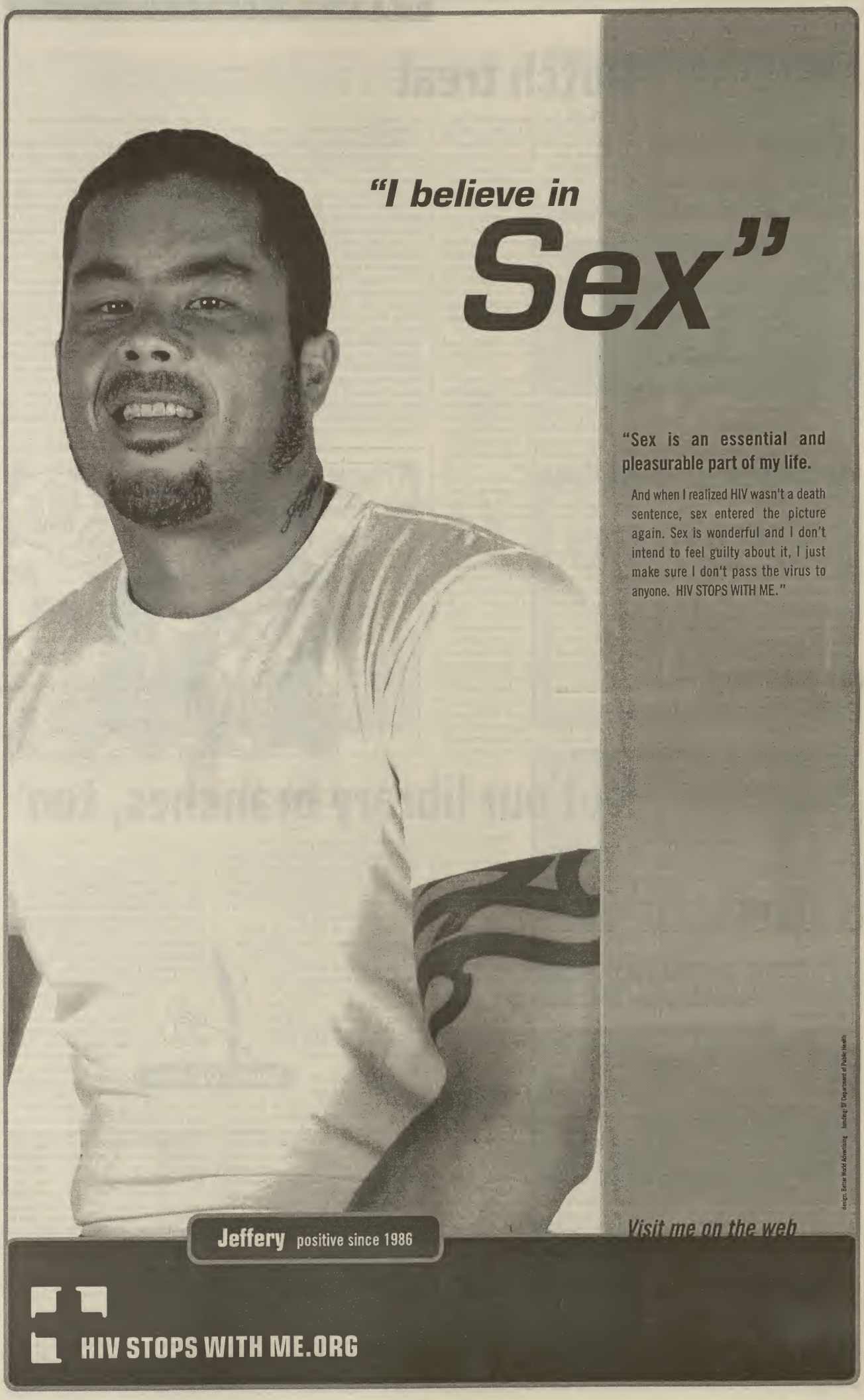
"I am a non-biased opinion in the mayor's office that constituents can come to voice concerns," said Ozoa. "But I find I do have to remind people I am just the liaison, that my power is limited. Still, I want my process to be as transparent as possible. While I may have to say no to certain things by virtue of my job duties, I'm all about education, and if there's a way to change things I'll help people find the appropriate routes." ▼

Ozoa can be reached at (415) 554-6148 or by e-mail at lawrence_ozoa@ci.sf.ca.us.

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Dutch treat

Leave it to the Netherlands, long a champion of equal rights for gays, to deliver stunning news this week – same-sex couples are now allowed to marry legally. Under a law that passed 109 to 33 on Tuesday, gay and lesbian couples, who previously had the right to register as domestic partners in that country, are now able to become full-fledged spouses and will be able to adopt Dutch children.

By granting full equality to same-sex couples, the Dutch lawmakers' landmark decision has gone further than those in any other country. Of course, along with the right to marry and adopt kids comes the right to divorce, and that too, will be handled in court just like it is with heterosexual couples.

"We will be able to call it what it is and that's marriage," said Henk Krol, editor of the *Gay Krant* magazine.

According to news reports, lawmakers thumped their desks in approval after the vote, and some of the scores of people in the packed public gallery applauded and embraced. What a scene it must have been.

The historic vote was supported by all three parliamentary factions in the governing coalition, and only a few small Christian parties voiced opposition during the emotional and often heated three-day debate over the bill. Naturally, those opposed to the marriage law voiced concern over the future of that bedrock institution known as marriage. One lawmaker, Kees van der Straaij, went so far as to say that the bill will create "a world without foundations … where the historical understanding of marriage is torn from its roots."

We say, hats off to the Dutch. As we all know, getting equal rights (like the ability to marry if we want to) has been exceedingly difficult in this country. In California, voters passed the anti-gay Proposition 22 that defines marriage as being between one man and one woman. Thirty-one other states have similar laws that prohibit same-sex marriages, with more expected to pass in the upcoming election. And let's not forget the chilling Defense of Marriage Act that Republican lawmakers shoved through Congress and that President Clinton signed.

What will it take for same-sex couples to achieve equal rights in the U.S.? It will take more fair-minded people being elected at all levels of government, and it will take education.

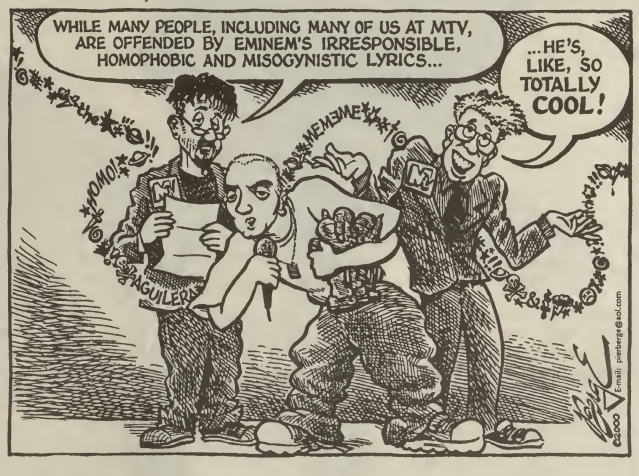
A lot of education.

A case in point is Vermont and what is happening in that state since the civil unions law went into effect in July. Vermont had its primary election Tuesday, September 12, and several lawmakers who supported the civil union bill were defeated. During the past several weeks, some communities in the New England state waged a nasty, homophobic battle with those opposed to civil unions putting up anti-gay placards. In some towns, the anti-gay displays were so overwhelming that gay and lesbian residents, who had moved to Vermont precisely because of its "live and let live" attitude, feared for their safety and feared becoming outcasts in a state that prides itself on independence and the individual spirit.

Editorial

Thankfully, the news in Vermont is not all bad. Thomas Little, the House Judiciary Committee chairman who was a chief author of the civil union law, survived a challenge. And, Vermont made history Tuesday when Ed Flanagan, the openly gay state auditor, narrowly won the Democratic primary for the U.S. Senate. Flanagan will now face incumbent Senator James Jeffords in the November election.

The contrast is striking between laws affecting gays and lesbians in this country and those in European countries like Sweden and Norway, where domestic partner registrations have wide acceptance, and the Netherlands. It once again brings to mind that while America may see itself to be the world superpower, the country has not shown enlightened leadership when it comes to granting full equality to lesbians, gays, bisexuals, and transgenders. ▼



Not our library branches, too

by James Chaffee

Proposition A, a $105.9 million bond issue on the November 7 ballot, is bad for San Francisco, bad for our neighborhoods, and bad for our libraries.

The catch phrase that the proponents of Proposition A are using is "Let's Finish the Job." When the voters understand what they mean by that, they will certainly reject the continuing destruction of our libraries.

Perhaps it is no coincidence that hundreds of thousands of books were thrown out in the move to the New Main. This was after promising the voters that the New Main would allow for 30 years of growth in the book collection.

Perhaps it is no coincidence that searching for books at the New Main involves going through scattered shelves and then through up to eight unsorted book carts that may contain a month's worth of unshelved books.

Perhaps it is no coincidence that a recent study of the New Main states that the time it takes to find a book in the New Main is four and a half times that of comparable libraries.

Even more seriously, perhaps it is no coincidence that with a library budget of $48.8 million this year, the book budget is not back to where it was five years ago when the budget was $33.2 million.

Perhaps it is no coincidence the library accepted a grant from Bill Gates of $262,000 and that this "gift" of Windows terminals requires the library to spend more than $3 million in rewiring over the next three years and then to maintain and "replace" that "gift" in perpetuity at whatever expense.

Perhaps it is no coincidence that in 1995, the first year of the implementation of Proposition E, the library budget went from $20.7 million to $33.2 million, a 60 percent increase, and the hours went from 754 to 1,112, a 47 percent increase. The library budget is now $48.8 million, an increase over 1995 of 47 percent. Yet the library hours were increased by zero.

Perhaps it is no coincidence that in a publicly funded survey San Francisco residents expressed an overwhelming preference for Saturday hours. Yet a number of branches have lost Saturday hours. The branches that lost a Saturday hour – in some cases gaining a weekday morning and other cases not – were Anza, Eureka Valley, Ingleside, North Beach, Ocean View, Potrero, and Visitation Valley.

Guest Opinion

Perhaps it is no coincidence that while the total budget increased by $3.3 million from last year, the branch services suffered a net loss of $166,601 from last year. It is common knowledge that the overwhelming majority of the library budget is staff salaries, and indeed we find a net increase in library employees from last year of 13.5. This increase was accomplished by increasing administration and the main library by 24 employees and reducing branches by 10.5 employees.

It is not a coincidence because the underlying problem is not a mystery. The San Francisco Public Library is dominated by a private, supposedly nonprofit Library Foundation that runs the library in the service of socialites and salesmen. At the same time it acts as a conduit for corporate and big money interests in open contempt for the public community interests. This has resulted in an outrageous commercialization and privatization of our public library. That being true, let's really take our analysis to the next level.

A recent study of the New Main found that "it is therefore not whether mistakes were made, but whether the perspective of the design team and the perspective of those who currently operate the facility were congruent." Yet those same incongruent policies are assured to continue because the notorious Library Foundation is putting up the money for the "Branch Facilities Plan" to the tune of $196,200, even though that plan is supposed to be a public plan.

That same "Branch Facilities Plan" will be coordinated by notorious privatization advocate Dallas Shaffer. Her salary is not included in the $196,200 because she was selected separately and will be paid separately by the Library Foundation. Ms. Shaffer was quoted in the press in defense of her role in privatizing the Riverside Public Library, "It [outsourcing library service to a private corporation] represents a prototype of what other government units may soon be doing who are already, without a second thought, outsourcing garbage collection and hospital services."

Your vote on the bonds will be interpreted as your ratification of the future course of this commercialized and privatized library. If you think a library should be public and democratic, to vote against the library bonds is your obligation.

Don't give them a reward for ruining our public library. Vote No on Proposition A. Vote No on the library bonds. ▼

The author is a member of Save Our Libraries. For more information, go to www.SaveOurLibraries.com or call (415) 705-0908.

LETTERS

Regrets the mishap

Just want to set something straight. Candidate for supervisor, Gary Virginia was upset that he did not receive an invitation to the District 8 Democratic Club endorsement meeting on Sunday, August 20. As the person responsible for inviting every candidate to the meeting, I am sorry that Mr. Virginia did not receive his invitation. After four phone calls that were busy, and two phone calls that rang and rang with no answer, I put an invitation in the mail to Mr. Virginia, which apparently he did not receive. I am very pleased that he encountered Shawn O'Hearn, who told him about the meeting, so he was able to attend. After Mr. Virginia made his presentation and commented that he was not invited, I went to him and explained that he had been invited, and I was sorry he hadn't received his invitation. I checked the phone number and address printed on the candidate's list from the elections office. The candidate's list did not include a fax number or an e-mail address for him and apparently his voice mail was not working correctly. I did try, and hopefully, this will never happen again. I do wish to reiterate that there was in no way an attempt to keep Mr. Virginia from appearing at the District 8 Democratic Club endorsement meeting, and I sincerely regret this mishap.

Zoanne Nordstrom
San Francisco

Candidate was invited

Regarding Katie Szymanski's story about Gary Virginia for supervisor District 8 *["Virginia is for lovers," August 31].*

For the record, Gary was invited to the District 8 Democratic Club candidates forum. He had no e-mail address, no fax number and no answering machine on his phone line. He was mailed a letter. After he had not responded to the letter he was called six times and each time his number was busy. We did our part. No one else had a problem.

I don't think Mr. Virginia should flatter himself as to thinking we didn't invite him so that we could endorse Mark Leno, Mr. Virginia wouldn't have been the one we didn't invite if that was true.



Morgan Gorrono, Vice President
District 8 Democratic Club

Quick buck scheme?

I am responding to a letter in the September 7 *B.A.R.* from Daniel Leifker, treasurer of MCC-SF ("There was a flier"). Although I agree that the *B.A.R.* should be more careful about checking its facts, I was nonetheless appalled that MCC-SF had said they required $21,000 to run a shelter for six homeless queer youth for only three months! How much could space on their chapel floor cost? Well, by my calculations over $1,000 a month per person. And what were they offering at that price? Certainly not care for their clients. It seems to me that Matt's Place was little more than a quick buck scheme for MCC-SF.

Stephen J. Harper
San Francisco

A light in the darkness

As a member of MCC and a supporter of Matt's Place, my anger and sadness deepen every time I read another article in the *B.A.R.* about this queer youth shelter. At every step of the way you have attacked MCC and the shelter workers. You have twisted the words of every public statement made by MCC staff in regard to the shelter to insinuate that they are trying to hide the truth and cover up some ulterior, sinister motive. And you wonder why your calls are not being returned?

The stated reason for the closure of the shelter is the actual reason for the closure of the shelter – MCC's facilities are not adequate to support this shelter in the long term. The shelter was moved from Golden Gate MCC to MCC-SF, funded by MCC, and operated by MCC staff because that was the only way to keep the shelter open in the short term – city funding was being discontinued. Nobody else offered to help, including the *B.A.R.*, despite the fact that, according to an August 31 article you do give money to local social service organizations *["B.A.R. donates $4,000 to local groups"].* Curtis Oliver's death was not mentioned as a reason for the shelter's closure because it was not a reason for the shelter's closure. Period. A precious life is gone despite all of MCC's efforts, not because of them. If you had ever set foot in the door of MCC-SF, you would know that Curtis's death was not swept under the rug, rather it was discussed publicly and mourned.

The shelter was a success because every day of its operation it provided food, shelter, and care to six young people who would otherwise have gotten none. Of course the shelter wasn't perfect – nothing in this life is. By what definition of success are you passing judgment? Did you expect that by some magic MCC could take six young people who are in great pain due to the lifetime of abuse they have suffered at the hands of their families and society, and turn them into problem-free, shiny, happy people in three months? Several years ago I ran a soup kitchen and food pantry which was part of a larger social service agency in New York City. The most important thing I learned is that I do not have the ability, nor is it my job, to change people's lives for them.

You are correct in stating that by operating a six-bed shelter, MCC was "just under the legal limit which would have required a conditional use permit from the city Planning Department authorizing operation of a shelter." Why? Because of what we went through to open the shelter at Golden Gate MCC. I attended the community forum held for the purpose of creating a dialogue between MCC and Noe Valley residents regarding the proposed shelter. I was one of approximately 20 people who spoke in favor of the shelter, in the face of approximately 200 people who spoke against it. Jim Mitulski and MCC endured vicious personal attacks during that meeting; the sentiments exhibited by Noe Valley residents opposed to the shelter were pure hatred born of unfounded fear.

MCC-SF is committed to social justice, and many of its members live out their faith by giving their time or money to social justice programs – MCC-sponsored and otherwise. Matt's Place was one manifestation of that. It wasn't perfect, but it was a light in the darkness where there had been none. You criticize and judge from your safe pedestal of total uninvolvement, yet offer no help or constructive ideas for improvement. You can quote the Bible all you want, but it doesn't change the fact that actions speak louder than words.

Holly Nollen
San Francisco

Muni workers have to earn respect

In reading a recent issue of the *San Francisco Chronicle* I found a most disturbing quote from a Muni driver by the name of Gwen Womak who drives on the 38 Geary Street line. Apparently, in an article entitled, "Lack of Respect From Public, Their Chief, Angers Drivers" Womak was discussing a scenario about how a passenger "spit at her, just missing her face."

"They have diseases," she said. "There are new strains of tuberculosis. There's the AIDS situation, God forbid."

As an HIV peer educator and research associate with the San Francisco Department of Public Health's AIDS office, I find this an unfortunate and ignorant statement. If Ms. Womak understood anything about basic HIV 101 or the simple facts about how HIV is transmitted, she'd understand that saliva alone doesn't transmit HIV. This coming from a city worker is definitely unfortunate. This statement has an over-lingering stench of homophobia, too. How is it that such a public servant of San Francisco, (where huge portions of HIV-positive people are gay and bisexual men) is driving for Muni?

If all city workers were required to take a "Bloodborn Pathogens" training that's offered by the DPH and be educated about how HIV and other infectious diseases are transmitted, then perhaps we wouldn't have such statements made public. If each city worker understood how to deal with a possible exposure or scenario where diseases could truly be transmitted and how they as city workers should deal with or respond to such an exposure, it would be beneficial for all parties. There are ways to educate city employees from all departments on this topic and ways to curtail or end homophobic attitudes within an agency that serves a public with a large LGBT community.

Perhaps when we deal with this ignorance held by Ms. Womak and other city employees and officials, then perhaps Ms. Womak's perception and attitude toward San Franciscans would change and her actions as well. Then perhaps, the respect that Ms. Womak and other Muni drivers crave will truly be granted. Respect is first earned. Ms. Womak and all city employees and public officials do deserve some respect for their roles as public servants, but so does the public they're serving.

As a side note, I personally think that Michael Burns is doing a great job overseeing Muni and Mayor Brown's decision to hire him was one of the best things the mayor ever did for Muni and San Francisco.

Seth Watkins
San Francisco

Gay or not isn't relevant

In his rage over the fact that Tom Ammiano supports Aaron Peskin rather that Lawrence Wong, Tom Runge *[Mailstrom, August 10]* states that Peskin's "sole accomplishment as an elected official seems to have been a leading role in the effort to stop a sex club from moving into his neighborhood."

Never mind the "seems," Peskin worked hard at the effort and so did the Telegraph Hill Dwellers because the nature of the club adds nothing to our neighborhood, and their procedures to get permits were blatantly deceitful. In any case, Aaron Peskin has done much more than that: credit where credit is due please.

He was instrumental in saving the historic Colombo Building; he led the fight to stop the ubiquitous Rite

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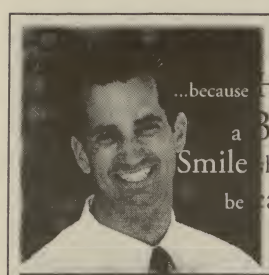
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Mailstrom

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Aid chain store (which sells booze as well as bandages) from locating in the Pagoda Theater (which will soon be a legitimate theater); he was influential in winning landmark status for Washington Square Park; he helped (and helps) tenants fight demolition of housing and Ellis Act evictions; he won new Bay water quality safeguards, and he has protected community gardens and urban open space from development.

Is it really relevant that he isn't gay?

Peskin is the only Democrat running for supervisor in District 3 and he is noticeably independent of downtown lobbyists, big landlords, and Mayor Brown's political machine.

John D. Dolan
San Francisco

Gore same as Bush

Lately we've been tormented with reactionary letters from people inside the gay and lesbian community urging us not to vote for Ralph Nader. Most of them, like Barney Frank's little whine-fest, would be funny if they weren't so pathetic, like Carole Migden's immoral use of gay-baiting. It just goes to show how some people when faced with doing the right thing or looking out for their careers, will pick the latter, considering of course they never entered politics without any sense otherwise. Harvey Milk, on the tape played after his assassination, warned us about their kind. He said "I think there is a distinction between those of us who use the movement and those who are part of the movement." He then launched into a vociferous attack on the then-leaders of the Alice Toklas Democratic Club. The same folks today urge us to choose Al Gore. Gore, who is part of the wealthiest 5 percent of Americans, opposes raising the minimum wage to match the cost of living, favored the repeal of a federal guarantee of assistance to poor children, got rich in a business subsidized by taxpayers, supports the Federal Reserve policy of keeping wages low to prop up stock prices, and supports tens of billions of dollars in corporate subsidies. Added to that, he's against gay marriage and he stood by Clinton's policy of banning gays from the military. He is part and parcel of the same administration that passed the anti-terrorism bill which is an Orwellian assault on privacy, freedom of assembly, and freedom of speech. He's also part of the same administration that passed the Defense of Marriage Act and put new limits on a woman's right to choose. Gore is a part of the same system of oppression that has existed in this country since it's inception. The sanctimonious tag-team of Joe Lieberman and Tipper Gore could further destroy freedom of expression in this country, far worse than any Texas Republican. So, all of you Nader-bashing Democrats afraid of losing your privilege to hob-nob with the elites, tell me: what makes you any different from the gay Republicans?

Kevin Weaver
San Francisco

Ready for a boycott

Will someone please throw down the gauntlet and launch a boycott of Abercrombie & Fitch, the Gap, CK, et. al., for the crime of their own internalized homophobia in light of their refusal to advertise in *XY* magazine, a young gay male forum, while exploiting the visage and pocketbooks of young gay males. What's particularly icky about A&F's imagery is that their catalogs work as an excuse for guys to check out other cute guys (and let's face it, their co-ed pretensions still play as Yankee male triumphalist), rather than a celebration of looking at cute young guys. Come on A&F, look us square in the eyes!

Secondly, everybody should do what they can to influence Kintetsu Corp. to keep open the profitable Japantown Bowl, not take away a public commercial/recreational business in favor of adding closed commercial/office development. SF for the people and all that. Bug Kintetsu at 922-9300 to get their address for sending a quick letter; carbon copy to City Hall and even to the Japanese Culture and Community Center, which wants to buy the damn building and save the alleys, but Kintetsu refuses.

Stan Maletic
San Francisco

See you at the Leatherwalk

What wonderful spirit and kindness the community has shown to the AIDS Emergency Fund lately. On behalf of AEF, our board of directors, our other volunteers and most importantly, our clients, thanks so much.

The community response and all the hard work of our volunteers made the Pride Parade and our being honorary grand marshal a wonderful honor and experience for us. Glennon Sutter and Werner Tillinger, our newest board members, were the prime movers behind the June float and also last week's Leather Extravaganza and we at AEF are very proud of them (with their partners Gavin and Tony).

We hope to see all of our friends at Leatherwalk 2000 this Sunday, September 17. Walk from Daddy's to the Eagle Tavern at 1 p.m.; check-in's at noon. "Mama" Sandy is doing a fantastic job as producer and the event is in memory of Grant DuPont and Tony De Blase. See you there and again thanks to all the angels who support AEF. We couldn't do it without all of you.

Peter Fiske, President
AIDS Emergency Fund
San Francisco

In leather solidarity

I would like to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt thanks and appreciation to everyone who either directly or indirectly took part in making the S.F. LeatherDaddy's Boy XVIII contest that took place on September 3 at the Eagle Tavern a rousing success. In particular I would like to thank Mr. John Gardiner, owner of the Eagle Tavern, and his entire staff for their gracious hospitality, especially Mr. Gary Kenyon for his ongoing and continued kindness toward me.

I would also like to thank the following individuals for whom without their guidance, help, and support this event could not have taken place: Mr. Jason Ladd - S.F. LeatherDaddy VI, for the script and wise counsel during the event itself; Mr. John Fike; Sandy "Mama" Reinhart; Mr. Andy Rose (my fellow Golden Gate Guards-LLC brother); and Mr. Mike Merrero for providing and cooking the food which from what I understand was absolutely delicious according to those who chose to partake of it.

My predecessor S.F. LeatherDaddy XVII Mr. Andre English and his partner S.F. LeatherDaddy's Boy XVII Mr. Lance Brittain for not only a truly sterling and exemplary year as major leather title holders, but also for taking the time to work closely with me on the necessary preparation that was needed to pull off this event. I can only hope and pray that given time, effort, and dedication on my part I will, with the Almighty's guiding hand and love, prove myself a worthy successor to the title and the very high standards of excellence the both of you have set.

I would like to thank the judges for the S.F. LeatherDaddy's Boy XVIII contest namely IML 1979 Mr. David Kloss, outgoing S.F. LDB XVII Mr. Lance Brittain, AEF board president Mr. Peter Fiske, the creator/founder of the S.F. LeatherDaddy's title and true friend/businessman and community activist extrordinaire Mr. Alan Selby, and Ms. South Bay Bear 1997-99 Laura Carlos.

I would also like to thank my Den Daddy, Mr. Robert Hernandez, Mr. Daddy's Leather 1999; my tally master Mr. Tim Wong; and a big thank you to Mr. Niq Shelby, Mr. S.F. Drummer 2000 who along with Andre English worked the door selling beer cups that Sunday afternoon at the Eagle Tavern.

I cannot say thank you enough to a truly marvelous and extremely talented entertainer, Mr. Solomon Rose, for his wonderful songs and his unwavering patience despite the glitches with the sound system. And thank you Mr. Don Thompson, S.F. LeatherDaddy VIII and Mr. David Meyers, S.F. LeatherDaddy's Boy XV for handling so professionally the raffle tickets sales and art auction proceeds as well (it should be noted that all the auction items that were bid upon at the Eagle Tavern during the contest were donated). A big thank you to Mr. Joey Faria, S.F. LeatherDaddy's Boy XIV, for being like my right hand.

I would like at this time to say thank you to S.F. LeatherDaddy XI, Mr. Philip M. Turner (owner of Daddy's bar in the Castro), for providing the winners' medallions and for the very sound advice and counsel you've continued to give me from your heart. A big thank you must definitely go out to Mr. J.D. Slater and Mr. Chris Ward, owners of Raging Stallion Studios for their very generous donation of gay videos that were part of the auction last Sunday, and to Mr. Mark J. Welsh, manager and buyer of the Rock Hard store on Castro Street for his donation of a marvelous sculptured head.

Lastly and certainly not least I must say thank you to my co-emcee for the S.F. LeatherDaddy's Boy XVIII contest, S.F. LeatherDaddy IV, Mr. Tom Rodgers, for without his experience, style, professionalism, and wit, I know I couldn't have possibly made it through that afternoon. I can only hope that my first attempt at emceeing-auctioneering a major fundraiser will not be my last. I can assure all of you that the overall success of that Sunday event can be directly attributed to the above-mentioned individuals and businesses along with all those who chose to take part in either the beer benefit or the silent auction. A big hug and kiss to one of my mentors and close friend, Mr. Marcus Hernandez, for his coverage of this event. I can only hope that for a first timer I might've done the late IML 1985 Patrick Toner proud.

I am happy to report that over $3,000 was raised for the AIDS Emergency Fund. I would like to extend my sincere congratulations to my new partner for the coming year, S.F. LeatherDaddy's Boy XVIII Mr. Bob Dern upon his selection. I am definitely looking forward to working closely with you in the coming year, I believe that we can and will make a difference and we'll make a wonderful team.

Keith Truitt
San Francisco LeatherDaddy XVIII
San Francisco

LGBT candidates seek county offices

by Wayne Friday

On November 7 San Francisco voters will choose a new president, a U.S. Senator, a House of Representatives member, representatives to the state Legislature, and decide numerous state and local propositions. They also will choose 11 members of the Board of Supervisors in district elections. Among the 87 candidates for the Board are numerous candidates from the city's lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender communities; several have a good chance of being elected.



Our Man Friday

The openly identified LGBT candidates for supervisor are: District 3: **Lawrence Wong**, currently a member of the community college board. District 5: Dr. **Juanita Owens**, currently a member of the Board of Education. Owens, a proven vote-getter has an excellent chance of winning this seat. District 6: **Chris Dittenhafer**, a bank officer who is also the president of the District Council of Merchants; longtime gay and civil rights activist **Hank Wilson**; former mayoral candidate **Jim Reid**; **Marc Salomon**; former Youth Commissioner **Dennis Isner**; **Gilbert Criswell**; **Brenton Holland**; and retired city worker **Denise D'Anne**. District 8: Incumbent Supervisor **Mark Leno**, **Eileen Hansen**, **Gary Virginia**, and **Shawn O'Hearn**. District 9: **Tom Ammiano**, the incumbent president of the Board of Supervisors, is highly popular in this district and a heavy favorite to win in November. Lesbian activist **Lucrecia Bermúdez**, a perennial candidate, is also running in this district. District 10: **Larry Shockey** is running in the Bayview-Hunters Point area. District 11: **Steven Currier**, a respected neighborhood activist is an openly gay candidate running against incumbent **Amos Brown**, who evicted a mother and her disabled gay son when he moved into the district earlier this year.

S.F. Board of Education: Four people will be elected from 12 candidates, including four candidates from the LGBT community – **Stephen Herman**, **A. Toni Young**, **David Parker**, and **Mark Sanchez**.

Community College Board: Four candidates will be elected. There are 13 candidates running, including two lesbians, **Christine Gaddi** and **Erin Brown**.

Openly gay BART board director **Tom Radulovich** is seeking re-election; Radulovich represents San Francisco on the transit board.

Politics and people

During a campaign in which **George W. Bush** has for months led Democrat **Al Gore** – at times by as much as 18 percentage points, the Texas governor now has apparently decided to press the panic button and turn negative by attacking Gore's character and integrity. Bush, who has for weeks said he doesn't want this campaign to be "ugly or mean" (except, apparently, when it suits him), has watched Gore pull ahead in the polls and has now seemingly changed his mind about getting nasty.

The Texas governor, watching his support plummet in the past four weeks, particularly among women and independent voters, had been trying to make his campaign for the White House in reality, a campaign against President **Bill Clinton**. With the polls now showing that tactic not working, the Bush campaign insiders have apparently decided that publicly attacking Gore's character and credibility is now their only way of reversing the vice president's high-flying campaign and in the process undo the gains that Gore has made since last month's Democratic convention.

In the past four weeks, Bush has stumbled over his own message on several key issues. He's been sidetracked by gaffes, like getting caught calling a respected *New York Times* reporter a "major league asshole" (after calling for a "temperate, civil" campaign) and he created a debate over the upcoming debates that backfired, thereby wasting valuable campaign time and energy that only led to criticism from within his own party. Governor Bush and his Austin advisers had originally planned to tag Gore as the "big government" candidate, but given today's economic and political environment, even Republicans had warned the GOP nominee that the tactic would not likely work. So far, it hasn't, and although some Republicans are warning Bush that a character assault against Gore is now too late, Bush and his top advisers have still apparently decided that only an all-out attack on Gore's credibility and integrity will give them their last chance of winning in November.

Look for it to happen almost immediately. Will the new plan work for the lagging Bush campaign? Possibly. Negative campaigns often are successful. Indeed, if Bush and the Republicans can get Gore on the defensive, and assuming that Bush can at least hold his own in the upcoming debates, this campaign is far from decided.

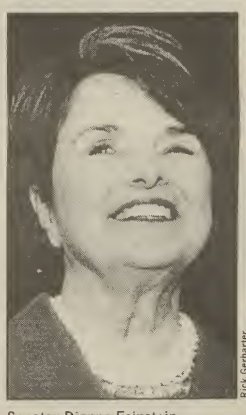
Forget about the polls – they will change almost daily. However, if Gore is indeed ahead and if he is still ahead of Dubya come November 1, Bush can look forward to completing his term as governor of the Lone Star State. What will eventually decide the election? This one is so close – and will likely stay that way – that I still think the debates will ultimately decide who moves to Pennsylvania Avenue in January.

Dick Cheney, the GOP veep nominee, admits to skipping up 14 of the last 16 Texas elections since moving there in the early 1990s, including this year's presidential primary election in which he *could* have cast a vote for his future running mate, George W. Bush. Bush explained Cheney's missed votes (all 14 of them) as being in elections that "weren't really that important."

National Republicans now seriously fear the likely loss of that all-important House seat in California's 27th Congressional District where incumbent Republican Representative **James E. Rogan** is said to be in a neck-and-neck battle with Democratic state Senator **Adam Schiff**; the Rogan-Schiff House contest is one that figures most prominently in the battle to control the next House of Representatives.

Surely America can do better: There are now only 62 members of Congress of minority background (most of them African American or Latino) among the 435 House members and 100 U.S. Senators; only 56 House members and nine senators are women, incidentally.

Vice President Gore's post-convention bounce has helped him open a substantial lead in California and the political operatives for Bush are reportedly close to following the path that his father, **George H.W. Bush**, took in 1992 and that **Bob Dole** took in 1996, and write off the state – not good news for California Republicans who fear the loss of legislative seats – as many as four House seats – and a lopsided U.S. Senate contest to Senator **Dianne Feinstein**.



Rick Gerharter

Senator Dianne Feinstein

Speaking of Feinstein, I wish her well and a speedy recovery from a nasty fall she took over Labor Day weekend in which she broke her leg at her Colorado vacation home.

Hall of Justice gossips have the D.A. candidates already lining up to run against **Terence Hallinan**, the subject of an in-depth report last week on KRON-TV ("He's San Francisco's D.A., and the dope dealers love him"), that examined Hallinan's practices involving alleged drug dealers and how few of them serve jail time after they are arrested because they are not prosecuted.

Meanwhile, Public Defender **Jeff Brown**, one of the Bay Area's most respected public officials, says he will retire after his current term; Governor **Gray Davis** should put this guy on the bench, and quickly.

And my favorite "Quote of the Week" (okay, the last two weeks) is still George W. Bush, standing on the stage in Illinois before an open microphone, pointing out a reporter to Dick Cheney, his veep choice, with "there's Adam Clymer, major league asshole from the *New York Times*." Cheney, is his best **Ed McMahon** impression, replies: "Oh, yeah, big time."

And how was your week? ▼

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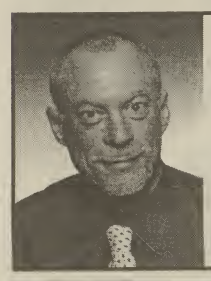
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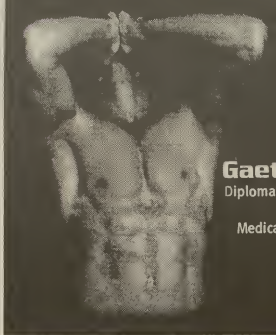
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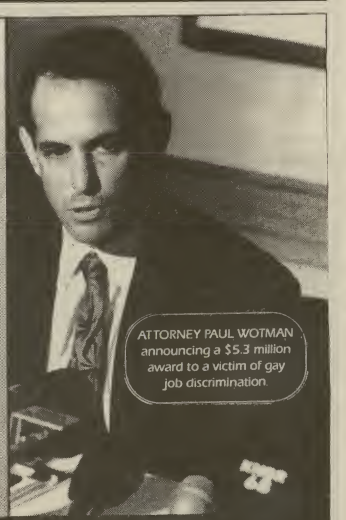
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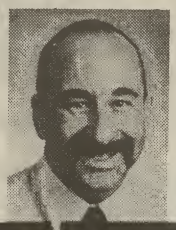
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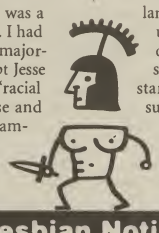
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There is no 'perfect candidate' for president

by Paula Martinac

In the 2000 presidential election, what's a progressive-thinking lesbian or gay voter to do? Vote for Al Gore? Choose Ralph Nader, the Green Party candidate? Sit out the election? Those alternatives are all problematic in different ways. But at this moment in history, Democratic candidates remain the best choice for left-leaning Americans, including lesbians and gay men.

In the primaries, I was a Bill Bradley supporter. I had never before heard a major-party candidate, except Jesse Jackson, use the term "racial justice" with such ease and underscore it in his campaign. Unlike Gore and George W. Bush, who couldn't say enough about what they owed to Jesus, Bradley refused to bring his religious beliefs into his bid for the highest office of a country where church is supposed to be separate from state. But it was his unflinching advocacy of adding "sexual orientation" to the Civil Rights Act over the strong objection of many centrist black and gay leaders that really clinched it for me.


Lesbian Notions

Bradley, however, was never a "perfect" choice for lesbian and gay voters. In the Senate, he voted for the odious Defense of Marriage Act, and he remained opposed to same-sex marriage throughout his campaign. Even his wife, Ernestine (whom I'd vote for in a minute, if the Constitution allowed immigrants to become president), admitted that Bill had a long way to go in his thinking on that key gay issue.

Gore is even further from perfection than Bradley. His praise for Bill Clinton's abysmal welfare reform program makes any good leftie cringe. And although he's gay-friendly, Gore, too, has got a way to go on issues like gay marriage and service in the military.

But the truth is, the "perfect candidate" doesn't exist, except in our imaginations. Even Ralph Nader, whom some on the left view as a savior, has been chastised for failing to address the racial divide in this country and for not taking a more impassioned stand on gay and abortion rights. Confronting criticism of Nader from progressives, Winona LaDuke, the Green Party's vice presidential candidate, wisely reminded voters that "we need to be careful on the left … to not make it so we are islands of political correctness unto ourselves, where it is only those who hold absolutely every [progressive] stand that we are willing to support."

Still, many liberal voters, lesbians and gay men included, are already invoking the old "there's no difference between Democrats and Republicans" excuse to opt out of going to the polls. They're ignoring the many notable differences between the two major parties' platforms on issues like lesbian and gay rights, abortion, gun control, the minimum wage, and prescription drug benefits for Medicare recipients. Strangely, many of these non-voters may consider their silence to be a political statement.

Other progressives, disapproving of Gore's corporate funding, his personal financial investments, or his choice of a running mate whose commitment to affirmative action has drawn questioning, may decide to cast their votes for Nader. But a vote of conscience for Nader, particularly in the key state of California, may throw the election to Bush – something no progressive should have on his or her conscience.

The push to have more than two choices in a presidential election is one I support. I think many people are hungry to reform this country's two-party system, as evidenced in the first presidential run of Ross Perot, the victory of Jesse Ventura in Minnesota, and the interest in Nader's grassroots campaign.

The function of third-party candidates has been to bring to the foreground issues that the major parties don't. That's important work, but in our imperfect system, these candidates usually just become "also rans" who pitch the general election to either the Democrats or Republicans.

Part of the problem lies with the Commission on Presidential Debates (www.debates.org), which is controlled by the two major parties and stipulates that only candidates garnering 15 percent in the polls can participate in the televised debates. Without exposure in the debates, which influence so many independent and undecided voters, third-party candidates are limited to single-digit totals, and the vicious cycle of two-party domination continues.

We need a lot of changes in our election process, like easier balloting and campaign finance reform. And for starters, we could use new rules governing the debates. Reform Party members have suggested letting candidates participate as long as they have raised $500,000 and appear on enough state ballots to have a mathematical chance of winning. By opening up the debates, voters would have more options, and we'd probably find major-party candidates becoming more responsive to a wide range of political views.

In the meantime, we've got the reality of the November election, in which only two candidates are electable: Bush, whose party's platform states, "We do not believe sexual preference should be given legal protection;" and Gore, whose party vows commitment to ending discrimination based on sexual orientation, among many other things. It's your choice. ▼

Paula Martinac is the author of seven books. She can be reached care of this publication or at LNcolumn@aol.com. For more Lesbian Notions, visit www.planetout.com.

Late night

◀ page 3

to reveal their sexual orientation.

The poll did not survey people's attitudes about the noise levels inside the clubs and its impact on the hearing health of patrons and employees.

"It's not one of the primary concerns we've been looking at," Fynn said. "There are other folks who are already talking about that. I've seen stuff in the *B.A.R.* about it."

In April, the *B.A.R.* ran a series of reports documenting the dangerous decibel levels inside the clubs.

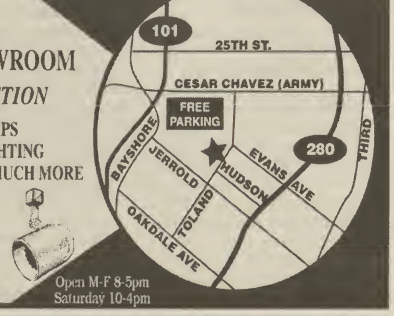
"I'm personally very committed to educating people about hearing protection," said SFLNC secretary Leslie Ayers. "I have custom-made earplugs. I like to see people in the clubs doing that. Maybe later that would be something the Late Night Coalition will have time to take up but it would be a moot point if we have nowhere to go dance."

Jim Meko, of the South of Market Residents Association, has often been at odds with several club owners over the noise and other problems sometimes brought on by the clubs.

"The poll is not at all surprising," said Meko. "This is San Francisco. You wouldn't expect people to come out to be opposed to fun.

next page ▶

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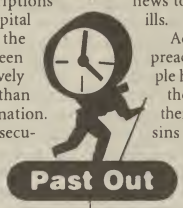
HISTORY LESSON

What was the Dutch sodomy panic?

by Wik Wikholm

September 24, 1731 (269 years ago this month): Twenty-two men and boys executed during Dutch sodomy panic

Today, Amsterdam's gay-friendly attitude, freewheeling nightlife, and the Homomonument, memorializing gays lost during the Nazi era, confirm travel guide descriptions of the city as the gay capital of Europe. Yet, during the 18th century, sex between men was more aggressively prosecuted in Holland than in any other European nation.



The first wave of prosecutions began in Utrecht, a large Dutch city, when Zacharias Wilsma, a 22-year-old servant and former soldier, was arrested on a sodomy charge in 1730. Wilsma was interrogated under threat of torture, and he knew a conviction could mean death, so he cooperated with his questioners. He shocked officials with a detailed description of a "sodomitical underworld" in Holland's cities, a world he said he knew well.

Wilsma named several sexual partners who lived in Amsterdam, so Utrecht authorities transferred him there to testify against his erstwhile lovers. The four men he accused were executed together in June 1730. Before they died, interrogators extracted a list of more than 40 names of fellow sodomites. The cycle of arrest, interrogation, and conviction continued, and investigations spread to The Hague, Delft, and Haarlem.

The recorded testimony of Wilsma and other sodomites later in the century reveal that the underworld he told authorities about really existed. It had well-defined rituals, its own slang, and well-known meeting places. A man cruising for sex might pat one hand with the other - a signal that he wanted to have sex - and once he attracted a partner, he might propose "going to the office," a visit to a public toilet. Once there, he and his partner would "dance and jump." More specifically, they might choose "shaking out" (masturbation) or "dirty work" (anal sex), though probably not oral sex, an unpopular practice. Sex partners could be found in local taverns, at well-known "offices" with names like "The Old Lady," or, if money permitted, in a "fun house" (brothel).

Wilsma and the other convicts' revelations came at a time when Dutch society was primed for panic. King William III had led the nation to economic and military successes during the late 17th century, but his death in 1702 led to the deterioration of the Dutch military and a humiliating loss of territory in 1713. By 1730, a consensus had developed that the nation was sliding into decline. When Holland's Calvinist clergy learned about the sodomites in their midst, they seized on the news to explain the nation's ills.

According to the preachers, the Dutch people had grown lazy during the years of plenty, and their idleness led them to sins like gambling, card playing, and whoring. When those pleasures were not enough, the most depraved descended into sodomy. No wonder the nation was in trouble. The Dutch people had enraged God and were suffering the consequences of their collective sin. In sermons and printed broadsheets, preachers warned that worse punishments would follow unless Holland returned to the stoic values of an earlier era and eliminated sodomites and their secret underworld.

The panic that followed the discovery of the "sodomitical underworld" and the ministers' warnings lasted for about two years. Paradoxically, the worst single incident of persecution did not occur in one of the large cities where sodomites congregated, but in a tiny peasant village named Faan. The tragic sequence of events there began in April 1731 when a blind 13-year-old boy alleged that his nephew had tried to have sex with him. The presiding country judge, Rudolph de Mepsche, quickly concluded that Faan was infested by a band of sodomites just like those he had read about in the big cities, and began a campaign to destroy it.

De Mepsche used the same methods of the city magistrates to root out Faan's sodomites. He interrogated and tortured the accused and forced them to reveal the names of their accomplices. The confessions he elicited included lists of dates and times when each of the accused had committed sodomy and the names of dozens of accomplices. The detail of the confessions suggests that the accused often fabricated both accomplices and events to escape the rigors of torture.

Records of the Faan interrogations reveal that sodomites in the little farming village were very different from Zacharias Wilsma's crowd. Some of the accused in Faan did not even know what sodomy was when they came before de Mepsche. Once he explained it, they admitted to a dalliance by a barn or in a ditch, but Faan had no "offices" or "fun houses," no subcultural rituals, and no secret language. The dangerous underworld de Mepsche set out to destroy did not exist. Still, de Mepsche had the convictions he needed to justify a mass execution. On September 24, 22 men and boys were tied to wooden stakes, strangled, and burned.

Periods of intense persecution recurred in 1764, 1776, and 1795, though none were as violent as the panic of 1730-1732. ▼

Wik Wikholm produces gayhistory.com, an introduction to modern gay history. He can be reached on the site's discussion boards, or by e-mail at wik@gayhistory.com. For more Past Out, visit

Suggested reading

Boon, L. J., 1988. "Those Damned Sodomites: Public Images of Sodomy in the 19th Century Netherlands." *Journal of Homosexuality* Vol. 16 Nos. 1 & 2.

Nordam, Dirk Jaap, 1988. "Sodomy in the Dutch Republic, 1600-1725". *Journal of Homosexuality* Vol. 16 Nos. 1 & 2.

van der Meer, Theo, 1988. "The Persecutions of Sodomites in Eighteenth Century Amsterdam: Changing Perceptions of Sodomy." *Journal of Homosexuality* Vol. 16 Nos. 1 & 2.

van der Meer, Theo, 1997. "Sodom's Seed in The Netherlands: The Emergence of Homosexuality in the Early Modern Period." *Journal of Homosexuality* Vol. 34 No. 1.

Late night

◀ *previous page*

But it's different if you have to live right in the middle of it."

Meko said his association has a good relationship with SFLNC and said that the coalition has done a good job mediating neighbors' concerns over club noise.

Meko supports Leno's plan for an entertainment commission. He said he met with the supervisor and was assured that the proposed commission would have a "good neighbor" policy that would take into account the concerns of South of Market residents. ▼

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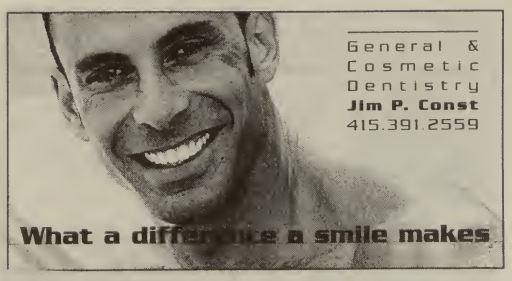
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by Jane Warner

Crime & Punishment

Collingwood and 18th, September 12, 10:50 a.m.: A resident of Collingwood Street observed a man trespassing in her backyard. When she yelled at him, the man jumped over her fence carrying two large black bags. The woman told her partner to call 911 and then ran to the front of the house where she saw the suspect riding away on a red bicycle. Two police cars pulled up behind the man. The suspect kept riding and one of the officers got out of the car and tackled him. Both collided and fell to the ground. The officer was knocked unconscious by the force of the collision. Other officers took the man into custody. The black bags were found in a nearby abandoned house. A search of the abandoned house revealed other stolen property, police said, including a car stereo, diving equipment, a camera, and jewelry apparently taken from other residential burglaries in the area. Booked for three counts of burglary, possession of stolen property, and resisting arrest was Steve Pinkham, 47. The badly hurt officer was taken to the hospital for a dislocated shoulder and concussion and kept overnight for observation.

Sticky fingers

15th and Landers, September 10, 10:10 p.m.: A man walking northbound on Landers was approached by another man who told him, "Excuse me, I just found out I have HIV, so don't make me stick you. Give me your money." The victim looked down and saw the man holding a hypodermic needle in his hand. The victim gave him $2. The robber became angry and demanded more. The victim gave him $20 and the suspect, described as a white male, 5 feet 10 inches tall, weighing 140 pounds, wearing a knit cap, gray hooded sweatshirt and baggy pants, ran southbound on Landers.

Back with a vengeance

26th and Castro, September 9, 9:20 p.m.: A man reported to police that while walking northbound on Castro, he was approached by two men, one of whom waved a black semi-automatic handgun in his face and demanded, "Nigger, take out your wallet." As the victim gave them his wallet, one of the men took $140 from it. The robbers then demanded more, frisking the victim. The victim told the men he didn't have anything else. When the robbers found nothing, they told the man to turn around. He complied, and heard the suspects run away in an unknown direction. Suspect number one is described as African American, 5 feet 5 inches tall, weighing 130 pounds, 20-22 years old, braided hair, wearing dark athletic clothing. Suspect number two is described as African American, 6 feet tall, average build, 20-22 years old, wearing a black ski cap and dark athletic clothing. These suspects are thought to be the same men responsible for the numerous armed robberies in the neighborhood lately. ▼

The San Francisco Patrol Special Police, which exclusively serves the Castro District, can be reached at (415) 679-1827.

Rosenkrantz's lawyer takes parole fight to court after prison board misses deadline

by Ed Walsh

The lawyer for Robert Rosenkrantz, the gay Southern California man convicted of killing his basher, is fighting back against the Board of Prison Terms for violating an August 30 deadline requiring it to send Rosenkrantz's parole order to Governor Gray Davis.

Last Friday, September 8, a Los Angeles County Superior Court judge heard arguments by Rosenkrantz's attorney, Rowan Klein, challenging the board's authority to go past the deadline. Klein also challenged the March 30, 2001, parole date issued by the board. Klein said the board had miscalculated the date and that the actual parole date had already passed. Klein also argued the parole board should be ordered to remove from the record its remarks that Rosenkrantz was not deserving of parole.

Klein told the *Bay Area Reporter* that he expected the court to issue its decision within the next two weeks.

On June 30, a three-member panel of the Board of Prison Terms ordered Rosenkrantz released. Two of the panel members remarked they were voting for parole reluctantly because they were under court order to do so. The Board of Prison Terms had 60 days to review and finalize its panel's order before sending it to Governor Davis. The board missed the deadline arguing that it needed more time to review all the paperwork on the case.

Klein believes the board is purposely stalling so "the governor won't have to deal with it."

The Rosenkrantz case has been a political hot potato for Davis, who has vowed to block the parole of all convicted murders. The governor's office is refusing all comment on the case.

Rosenkrantz was 18 in 1985 and had just graduated from Calabasas High School when he was confronted by his former schoolmate, 17-year-old Steve Redman. Redman called Rosenkrantz a faggot, broke his nose with a flashlight, and then outed him to his parents. A week later, Rosenkrantz confronted Redman with an Uzi and demanded he take back his outing. The two argued and Rosenkrantz shot Redman 10 times. Rosenkrantz eventually turned himself in and was convicted of second-degree murder.

By all accounts, Rosenkrantz has been a model prisoner. The California Department of Corrections has strongly recommended his parole.

Rosenkrantz's battle for parole has been tied up in the courts for two years. Both the Los Angeles County Superior Court and the 2nd District Court of Appeals have ruled Rosenkrantz has been unfairly denied parole.

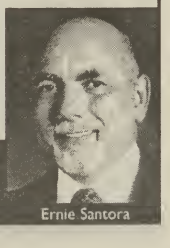
Klein expects the Superior Court to once again rule in Rosenkrantz's favor and force the board to send its June 30 parole order to Davis. Klein has promised to sue Davis if he blocks Rosenkrantz's parole has he has done once before. ▼

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Ernie Santora

COMMUNITY NEWS

CAPE fear

Will 'No on Knight' money go elsewhere?

by Katie Szymanski

It has been six months since the failed "No on Knight" campaign conceded to the victory of Proposition 22, which defines marriage as between a man and a woman. It has been more than three months since the organization announced that its leftover funds – approximately $250,000 – would go to the California Alliance for Pride and Equality to help fight for lesbian gay, bisexual, and transgender rights in the state Legislature.

So where is the money, and why is there now what appears to be a battle for the funds?

According to inside sources, former staffers for No On Knight may be having a change of heart when it comes to giving the extra funds to CAPE. Those same sources have also speculated that Mike Marshall, No On Knight's former campaign manager, may simply use the money to fund an organization or effort of which he is once again the leader. While the *Bay Area Reporter* was unable to verify that speculation, there was in fact a meeting last week in which both Marshall and Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund staff attorney Evan Wolfson attended; Wolfson reportedly made his own pitch for funds to fight for gay equality in other areas of the country.

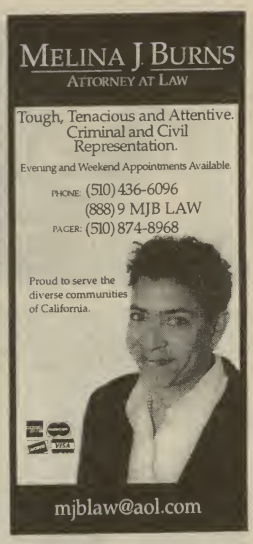
Kate Kendell, former board member of No on Knight and executive director for the National Center for Lesbian Rights, told the *B.A.R.* last week that indeed the money was not necessarily going to CAPE.

"CAPE is a very likely candidate for the money," said Kendell, "but we want first and foremost to be fiscally responsible and to also use the money in a way that best moves forward the reason for moving it in the first place, which is protection and recognition for gay and lesbian relationships in California."

But when asked if that meant that the money would go to a California-based effort, Kendell replied, "Nothing has been decided."

This week, Kendell told the *B.A.R.* that CAPE would get at least some of the money, but that the former No On Knight staff was not ready to disclose details and would later issue a press release as to what has been decided.

Where will the money that the public poured into the campaign eventually go? Will voter donations become somebody's salary or be used to fight anti-gay efforts in the Midwest? Stay tuned as the process unfolds. ▼



Gay-straight alliance OK'd at El Modena High School

by Katie Szymanski

Score one more victory for the queer kid revolution. The Orange County Unified School District announced on September 7 that it would abandon all further efforts to prevent its students from forming a gay-straight alliance at El Modena High School.

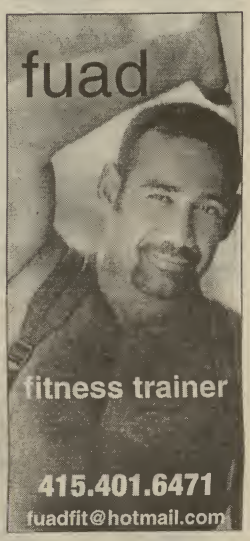
School officials agreed to settle their yearlong lawsuit that sought to keep a student-formed gay-straight alliance from meeting on school grounds. The district encountered more than a few stumbling blocks in its fight, most notably when U.S. Court Judge David Carter ruled in February that the kids could meet at El Modena while the matter was in court. Carter noted that the club was allowed under the federal Equal Access Act, but he also emphasized that El Modena's gay-straight alliance was "in the public interest."

School district officials briefly toyed with going the way of a Salt Lake City school, which prohibited all extracurricular activities in order to be able to legally ban the gay student group under the Equal Access Act. But as of this month, it looks as though the Southern California district has surrendered to the inevitable.

El Modena's controversy began last year when students Anthony Colin and Heather Zetin asked for permission to form a gay-straight alliance to teach respect and tolerance for all sexual orientations. The school refused to let the club meet on its property, and the students sued, represented in court by Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund and People for the American Way.

Advocates hailed the settlement as a victory for students across the country.

"By forming gay-straight alliances, young people across the country are standing up for their right to safe and respectful learning environments," said Kevin Jennings, executive director of Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network. "The lessons of El Modena will be heard not only by these students, but by administrators and school boards in their local communities. We expect to see record numbers of students form clubs this year." ▼



Stop AIDS Project to honor four 'local heroes' Monday

by Terry Beswick

The Stop AIDS Project will present its fifth annual San Francisco HIV Prevention Awards to four "local heroes" this Monday, September 18 with a "twilight to midnight celebration of exotic fare, global entertainment, and club dancing" beginning at 6:30 p.m. at Ruby Skye, located at 420 Mason Street.

Judith Light will serve as honorary chair for the evening, to be co-hosted Jonathan Karsh and Malou Nubla from KPIX's *Evening Magazine*.

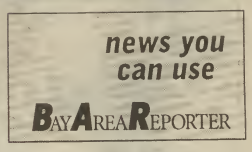
"On this special evening, we will honor four heroes from our community," said Stop AIDS Project board president Jason Lorber. "Their dedication and passion to fighting AIDS inspire all of us to continue to end the spread of HIV."

This year, the Chuck Frutchey Memorial Award will be presented to Mike Shriver of the AIDS Research Institute of the University of California, San Francisco. The Sam B. Puckett Memorial Award will go to Carla Clynes of the AIDS Office of the San Francisco Department of Public Health and Debra Kent, a community fundraiser. A "special recognition" award will be presented to Paul O'Malley of DPH.

Entertainment includes Sam Harris, a Tony-nominated Broadway singer; the cast from *Stomp*;

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Gay Vermont legislator to be guest at legal benefit

by Katie Szymanski

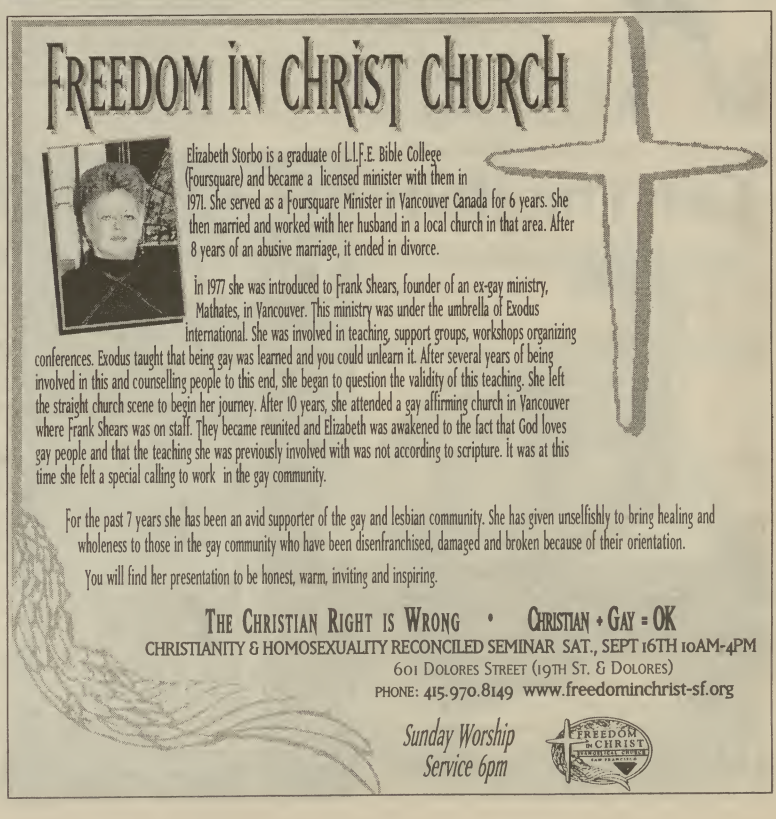
It is impossible to research Vermont's historic civil union legislation without coming across William Lippert's name. The Democrat from Vermont's House of Representatives not only served on the judiciary committee responsible for crafting the bill, but gave an impassioned speech in its favor that was credited from here to Canada as the plea that captured all the undecided votes.

Lippert, the state's only openly gay representative in the House, will be in San Francisco this week as the guest of honor at a cocktail benefit for the Pride Law Fund on Tuesday, September 19. The fundraiser will be held at 2223 Restaurant at – you guessed it – 2223 Market Street in San Francisco. The suggested donation is $25 at the door.

Lippert is now famous for his April speech on the House floor in favor of the civil union bill and against an amendment that would have compromised committed lesbian and gay relationships.

"We argue about whether they are civil rights or other rights, but I'll tell you this, they are rights that I don't have right now and most everyone else in this chamber does," Lippert told his colleagues. "There's something strange about sitting in the midst of a deliberative body that is trying to decide whether I and my fellow gay and lesbian Vermonters should get our

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LGBT exhibit included in California's 150th anniversary celebration

by Dan Aiello

California marked its 150th anniversary as a state last weekend, September 9-10. Admission Day 2000, the sesquicentennial event, was held in Sacramento and included an exhibit depicting gay and lesbian Californians, their struggles, and their triumphs over the last 150 years. Last-minute calls to organizers from the California Alliance for Pride and Equality's Sam Catalano and Governor Gray Davis's office ensured LGBT representation in the event.

According to Gayle Lang, board member of Sacramento's Lavender Library, Archives, and Cultural Exchange, it was CAPE's Catalano and Dennis Petrie, Davis's communications director, who realized the pending absence of LGBT representation during the weekend celebration.

"They called us and the GLBT Historical Society in San Francisco and we pulled this exhibit together at the last minute," said Lang.

The exhibit, a compilation of the struggles, triumphs, and defeats of individual gay and lesbian Californians as well as the community as a whole are well documented in news articles, political brochures, and photographs chronicling LGBT history in the state. Although the exhibit covered all 150 years, it focused primarily on the years from 1940 to present.

Standing at the north wing of the Capitol, within the stately grounds of Capitol Park and under the shadow of the dome, the exhibit gave viewers some idea of what it was like for gays and lesbians before the enactment of existing civil rights laws.

The exhibit's news articles, a part of GLBTHS's archives, depicted the witch-hunt atmosphere that gays and lesbians were forced to endure in the not-so-distant past. "City Opens War on Homosexuals" read the headline of one article by John Raymond, which appeared in the *Marin News* in 1959. "The welcome mat is being yanked out from under Sausalito's limp-wristed crowd," the writer begins. "Male prima donnas who unleash their lavender libidos in public now are apt to find the object of their affection is an ABC agent." Although some may now find humor in the late-1950s description of homosexuals by Raymond, it is a sad reminder that fear was a very real and present part of the lives of California's homosexual community then.

In fact, Raymond quotes Sausalito's then-police Chief Howard Goerndt as saying he wants to eliminate all homosexuals from his city. "This is no fairyland, but a respectable community," said Goernht. Few today can imagine such discrimination in the Marin County city but the image of government agencies openly seeking out homosexuals to eliminate their very existence is a chilling reminder of California just four decades ago.

In some ways, that's the point of the exhibit, to document just how far the community has come. From the political fights against Anita Bryant and the Brigg's initiative to Proposition 64, the Larouche initiative, and the election and subsequent assassination of former San Francisco Supervisor Harvey Milk, California's LGBT community has paid a high price in the state and has earned, through painful struggles at both individual and community levels, a place at the political and social table in the state.

"We received both positive and negative comments from the public," Lang said of the exhibit. "But it was a great experience to be part of that event."

The exhibit will be on display at LLACE's November grand opening at 1414 21st street in Sacramento. ▼

For more information call LLACE at (916) 492-0558 or the GLBTHS of Northern California at (415) 777-5455.

Larry Shockey

◀ page 1

parks and recreation centers, and "vocational training centers to get people ready for the dot-com world, because it's a reality."

Shockey also wants a new tax on San Francisco's landlords to establish a pool of money for various youth programs. Landlords would be required to register each of their rental units at $100 annually, a fee that he said could not be passed on to tenants, creating a fund of some $20 million a year.

Other issues topping Shockey's agenda are affordable housing and the controlling the live-work loft invasion, "full funding" for San Francisco General Hospital, and more Muni lines through the district (see www.shockey4supervisor.org).

Like many candidates for supervisor taking advantage of the new system for electing members of the Board of Supervisors by district – a system designed to make campaigns more affordable to candidates and supervisors more representative of the neighborhoods – Shockey is staging his first run for elective office.

With no endorsements, and having raised less than $2,000 for the bid, Shockey has loaned his campaign $5,000 of his own money.

Among the 13 candidates running in District 10, Mayor Brown has endorsed Linda Richardson for the post. Brown had appointed Richardson to the Planning Commission last year; she resigned to run for supervisor. Board President Tom Ammiano supports Marie Harrison, who worked on his campaign for mayor last year.

Shockey, who grew up in Oklahoma, worked as a city attorney and then as an assistant attorney general for the state. When that job was eliminated after his boss was voted out of office, Shockey and his domestic partner moved to San Francisco in 1982; neither had been to the city before. They decided to make the move "for the obvious lifestyle considerations."

For 13 years, Shockey worked for the Office of Citizens Complaints of the San Francisco Police Commission, investigating allegations of police misconduct. While at the OCC, he served as a member of Service Employees International Union, Local 790 and for five years as shop steward.

One of the cases Shockey investigated for OCC was the beating of United Farm Workers leader Dolores Huerta, who lost her spleen in a police beating at a protest of Vice President George Bush in the late 1980s.

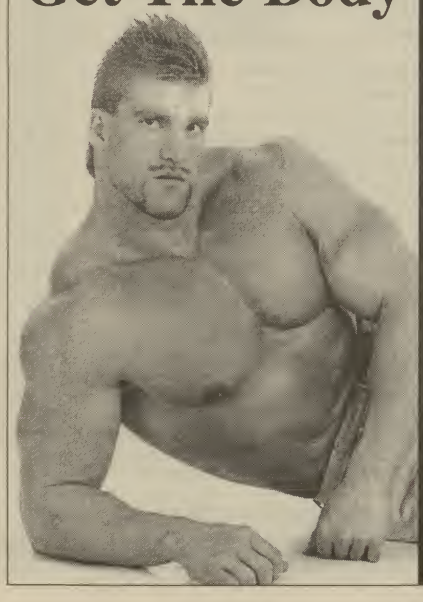
In 1996, Shockey decided to use his legal degree to practice law, and took a more lucrative position at the seven-attorney firm of Prentice & Scott, L.L.P., which he explained, has a primary focus on representing plaintiffs in civil rights violations, wrongful terminations, and employee discrimination.

Since moving into Bayview Hunters Point, Shockey said that he has focused his time and attention on his career, and hasn't had the time to get involved in neighborhood issues in the district, but nevertheless has educated himself on the issues with first-hand experience as a resident.

There is a lot of room for improvement in District 10, and Shockey believes that it's time for a fresh face to try to get things done for the people who live there.

"It's hard for me to understand," he said, "how the same people who've ostensibly been out there over the last 10 or 20 years in their citizen capacity are going to do any better as an elected official." ▼

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Kaiser, PG&E 'unaware' of Dr. Laura ads on first TV show, demo in SF

by Dan Aiello

Lesbian and gay monitors of the premiere of the *Dr. Laura* television show were surprised Monday, September 11 to see two of California's largest corporations, both with progressive policies toward gay and lesbian employees, advertising during the one-hour show.

Kaiser Permanente and Pacific Gas and Electric both aired two spots during Laura Schlessinger's first television broadcast on KXTV in Sacramento.

Meanwhile, in San Francisco, a large crowd gathered at noon Monday outside KPIX-TV's offices to protest that station's airing of Schlessinger's show. San Francisco Supervisor Mark Leno addressed the crowd, as did Rabbi Jane Litman. Five people were arrested at the demonstration, police cited them for civil disobedience and they were released.

San Francisco activist Jeff Sheehy was one of those arrested. Sheehy, who led the successful United Airlines boycott, called on the community to stop watching Channel 5 in the Bay Area. He also took advertisers to task.

"I'd like to see the next demo outside of Kaiser, and then the next one outside of PG&E," Sheehy told the *Bay Area Reporter*, noting that many people with HIV/AIDS seek care at Kaiser. "PG&E brags that they give money to the gay community and then they turn around and sponsor hate."



Jane Philomen Cleland

Rabbi Jane Litman speaks outside KPIX TV Monday, September 11, protesting the *Dr. Laura* television show.

Lyla Petersen, spokeswoman for Kaiser Permanente, was surprised that her company's ads would have appeared during the show. "I don't know how it happened," Petersen said.

"I want to emphasize to the gay and lesbian community that there's no way we would endorse Dr. Laura. Kaiser was the first medical care systems provider in the HIV fight, the first with a non-discrimination policy and the first to provide domestic partner benefits to its employees," Petersen said.

Petersen said that she thinks the ad space may have been purchased on a basis of demographics and not show-specific. Petersen, on Wednesday, told the *B.A.R.* that Kaiser has pulled all ads statewide. "We moved very quickly," she said.

Staci Homrig, a PG&E spokeswoman, acknowledged that the utility company did run two customer energy management program spots for its "comfort homes." "We're looking into how our ads appeared" during the Schlessinger show, she said.

"Our ads running do not imply any endorsement" of the views of Schlessinger, said Homrig. "Our contract is with the TV station." Homrig believes that PG&E may have purchased time-range ads, rather than show-specific, "in order to get a better rate." Homrig said the company will be looking into whether or not they can request exclusion from the *Dr. Laura* show without violating the contract.

"I've informed our gay and lesbian employee association this morning that the ads did run," said Homrig. "They were not aware of it." Homrig believes that, despite the ads, the company has good standing both with the gay and lesbian community and its employees. "I don't think anyone can question our support" for the gay and lesbian community, Homrig added.

According to Sam Rossenwasser, KXTV CEO and president, PG&E and Kaiser Permanente can request that their ads not appear during the *Dr. Laura* show. "That's certainly possible," said Rossenwasser.

Neither Petersen nor Homrig were willing to provide a number that employees or the public could call to voice their concern with either company.

Companies advertising on Tuesday's show included Safeway. There was also a long commercial for an Anne Murray album.

Schlessinger has stated on her radio program that, "If you are lesbian or gay, you are a biological error." She has also told millions of listeners on her radio show that, "a large portion of the homosexual male populace is predatory on young boys." Schlessinger misleads listeners and viewers with the term "Dr." because her doctorate is in physiology, the study of the functions of the body, and not psychology or psychiatry, the subject of both her radio and television talk show.

In Monday's segment, Schlessinger stayed away from LGBT issues and focused on the safe topic of teens and drug use. Schlessinger held an online Web poll asking her viewers whether or not children should be regularly checked for drugs. She berated the 46 percent of viewers who did not agree with her view that children should be forced to submit to a regular drug test in school. ▼



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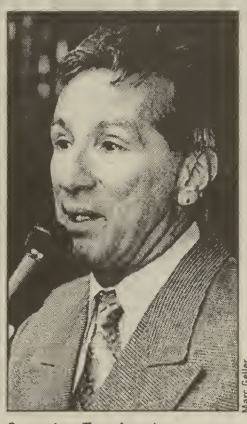
Mission man

Ammiano confronts struggles in Mexico

by Katie Szymanski

What's a gay Italian American from San Francisco doing in Mexico, a country where it isn't particularly safe to be queer or foreign? Forging coalitions between various human rights struggles, of course, in the way that Board of Supervisors President Tom Ammiano has been known to do.

Ammiano made the trip from September 1-8 to meet with both the indigenous people of Chiapas and the gay leaders of Mexico City in an attempt to draw attention as well as parallels to the persecution of the country's people. Accompanying the human rights group Global Exchange, Ammiano brought along a resolution from the San Francisco Board of Supervisors urging Mexican officials not to deport human rights workers, as the country has been known to do. The resolution also called for Mexico's new president-elect, Vincente Fox Quesada, to respect human rights and remedy the situation for indigenous and queer people. Fox, a former Coca-Cola executive, was elected president earlier this year; he takes office in December.



Marc Geller

Supervisor Tom Ammiano

The trip did not go off without a hitch, and right before Ammiano arrived, "they yanked my special visa," he told the *Bay Area Reporter.* " The government got cold feet and decided that my visa gave me too much access, so they reduced it to a tourist's visa."

Ammiano and his group first went to visit the political prisoners of Chiapas, the indigenous people who are serving stiff sentences on "trumped-up charges, many of whom received no trial." The indigenous people – also referred to as the Mayan population – have historically been denied their right to exist as their own culture, whether through being exiled to camps, penalized for speaking their own language, or required to walk in the street when people of Mexican and Spanish ethnicities passed by on the sidewalk. Their government-imposed living conditions have rendered them to a life of poverty, trapped in a system where they are often powerless to make things better. But on January 1, 1994, a group of Tzotzil, Tzeltal, Tojolabal, Mam, Zoque, Lancandon, Mixe, and Chol Indians, all from the Mayan language group, rose up in revolt, and the Zapatista movement was born. The movement has led to some progress, but like all rebels in countries around the world, Zapatistas and anyone associated with them have been silenced and imprisoned.

Ammiano waited five hours in the sun to visit with those who remain behind bars.

"I got strip searched, which was above and beyond the call," said Ammiano, "but they didn't know that I'm a Castro boy and I can deal with it."

Visiting the prisoners was "really hard," said Ammiano. "It really got my priorities set in life."

Ammiano then traveled to the camps where the displaced natives live, and he was welcomed by lines of people who appealed, "Please help us, we want to go back to our land."

There, Ammiano made a presentation of the supervisors' resolution, and vowed to help draw media attention to the people's plight.

Then, in Mexico City, Ammiano and crew met with 40 queer leaders from all over Mexico.

"There was such a great diversity," said Ammiano. "There were people from the Caribbean, transgenders, lesbian moms. I had to laugh because at one point they said, 'This is history in the making … we all fight for the same cause yet this is the first time we're all together.' I told them that happens here, too, and we manage to make advances anyway."

But the stories Ammiano heard were far from humorous, and gave him much pause.

"I spoke with a woman whose son was killed by he police because he was gay. I spoke with another person who said that at least four bodies remain unclaimed because these men were killed for being gay and their families are too ashamed to go get them," said Ammiano.

Yet the trip was mostly about inspiring optimism, for as bad as the situation remains, human rights in Mexico has received much press in the last couple of years.

"The gay people here are very sympathetic to the Zapatista cause, and they're beginning to realize their common goals. It is a time of transition, one where everyone is nervous about the new government," said Ammiano, who, for his part, will remain connected with Global Exchange and human rights issues in Mexico.

"The trip was a life changing experience," said Ammiano. "What we can do as Americans is continue to draw attention to the issues there.

"Scrutiny," he said, "is good." ▼

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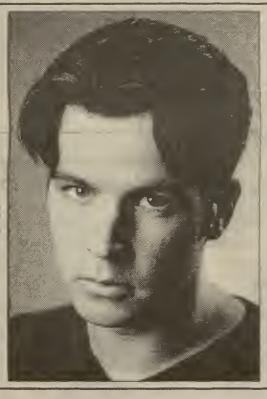
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COMMUNITY NEWS

FDA to look at revising gay blood ban

by Terry Beswick

For the past 15 years, in the interest of protecting the nation's blood supply, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has been more stringent in screening prospective gay blood donors than the U.S. military is in screening prospective gay recruits to the armed services.

Since 1985, healthy citizens are asked, and are expected to tell, whether or not they are gay if they want to donate blood.

"Are you a male who has had sex with another male EVEN ONCE since 1977?" asks question #9 on the donor form used by the Blood Centers of the Pacific, with donation sites throughout Northern California.

If they answer, "yes," they get the boot.

Every year, Blood Centers of the Pacific issues a public appeal for donations. And every year, particularly in communities like San Francisco with a large gay population, it and other blood banks are frustrated that they are forced to exclude virtually all gay and bisexual men – or risk losing their license.

"Gay men could potentially account for as much as 25 percent of San Francisco's daily need if we were allowed to donate," said Supervisor Mark Leno, who has led protests against the ban. "Given chronic shortages, HIV-negative gay men with usable blood should not be prevented by some outdated regulation from saving someone's life."

Today and tomorrow, an FDA advisory panel meets outside Washington, D.C., to review arguments for and against using an affirmative response to the "gay question" as criterion to reject donations from the least fortunate among us – those who haven't had sex of any kind at all in the last 23 years.

The FDA has held a number of workshops in recent years looking at the fact that science has gotten ahead of public policy on the issue, setting the stage for a cautious reappraisal of the discriminatory exclusion, and at today's meeting of the FDA Blood Products Advisory Committee, experts are expected to testify that advanced tests can detect the presence of HIV in the blood within just 20 days of infection.

Still, rather than lifting the ban altogether, federal officials are considering only narrowing it – continuing to exclude men who have had any kind of sex with even one other man within the last year. Early this year Blood Centers of the Pacific issued a statement supporting the idea of a one-year deferral.

But Leno, who sponsored a resolution from the Board of Supervisors last year opposing the ban, believes the guidelines should be revised to exclude people on the basis of their "risky behavior," rather than their sexual orienta-

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Chuck Holmes

◀ page 1

Holmes gave thousands of dollars to politicians and political causes he believed in. "He gave to myriad charities – gay and straight. He often said he was very lucky to have made so much money that he was always willing to share. Things were not always so good; he struggled for many years just to make ends meet, and he never forgot those that helped him when he needed it.

"The stories of his youthful days were wild and crazy, he enjoyed life to the fullest. When he became ill he didn't really slow down, just stopped drinking and changed his lifestyle," Ross added. "Chuck, you were an inspiration to me and many others and I know your legacy will long outlive you. Your pain and suffering have finally ended and we will meet again in the great beyond. Bye for now."

San Francisco Supervisor Mark Leno said: "Chuck was a remarkable individual. He was a self-made business success with a heart of gold, with a personal modesty that only matched his extraordinary generosity. He was endlessly devoted to the battle for equality for the queer community."

Brian Bond, executive director of the Victory Fund, told the *B.A.R.* that Mr. Holmes will be sorely missed. "Truly, Chuck was a great supporter of the Victory Fund and gay candidates," Bond said. "He knew the mission of the Victory Fund better than I did. His heart was in the right place when it came to advancing the rights of the LGBT community."

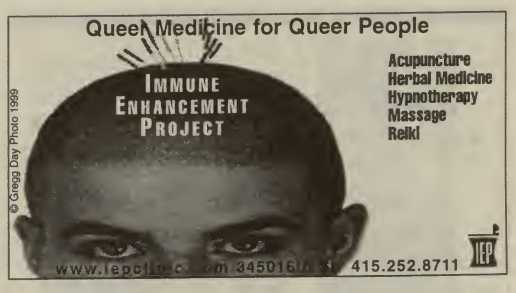
Mr. Holmes was born in Terre Haute, Indiana and received a degree in business administration from Indiana State University. His first job was with a manufacturer of prefabricated buildings, and in 1971 the company promoted him to Western sales manager for residential housing and transferred him to San Francisco. When his division was eliminated in early 1971, Mr. Holmes bought three adult gay films and several mailing lists at the urging of an adult film entrepreneur, and by mid-year had sent out his first mail order piece. Falcon Studios had been born.

Originally offering its titles on 8mm film, Falcon was one of the first to offer its titles on videocassette. Now, nearly three decades later, Mr. Holmes has not only introduced three new lines – Jocks Studios, Mustang Studios and Falcon International Studios – but offers the Signature collection, the expanded Falcon Accessory Line, the FalconStudios.com Web site, and has recently ventured into the burgeoning world of DVD.

With more than 300 titles in the current video library, Mr. Holmes, his production team, and his models have earned top awards year after year. While remaining involved as CEO, Mr. Holmes turned the day-to-day running of the Falcon family of companies during the past few years over to Executive Vice President John Rutherford, who also serves as director of production. He and company Vice President Terry Mahaffey will continue to run the business based on the proven precepts established by the founder.

Mr. Holmes had been involved with the gay community in numerous ways, giving back to those who needed assistance and offering a voice for basic equality. He was a major contributor not only to over 20 HIV/AIDS outreach programs, but also to such projects as the new San Francisco Community Center Project, Amnesty International, Global Green, and the Sierra Club. A staunch Democrat who recognized the need for the community's voice to be heard in the nation's capitol, Mr. Holmes was a past board member of the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund. At the time of his death he was a board member of the Human Rights Campaign, which funds lobbying and legislative activities, sponsors fair-minded political candidates, and provided financial resources for major educational campaigns. Mr. Holmes was dedicated to "an America where lesbian and gay people are ensured of their basic equal rights - and can be open, honest, and safe at home, at work, and in the community."

A memorial service for Mr. Holmes will be held this Saturday, September 16, at 5 p.m. in the Terrace Room of the Fairmont Hotel, 950 Mason Street in San Francisco; a reception will follow. In lieu of flowers and in Mr. Holmes's honor, friends and associates are encouraged to make donations to the Human Rights Campaign. Contact Alex MacLennan c/o HRC 919 18th Street N.W., Suite 800 Washington, D.C., 20006-5509 or call (202) 216-1574. ▼



Stop the violence at HIV/AIDS forums in San Francisco!

It is time to demand an end to the acts of violence and intimidation towards people with AIDS and others in our community by people calling themselves ACT UP/San Francisco. We defend their right to disseminate their beliefs — but they must respect the rights of others to do the same. Their tactics of disrupting public meetings and physical violence towards those who disagree with them must stop now!

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Howard Street Harm Reduction Center
1017 Howard Street at 6th Street
415-575-9790
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The Hope Center
988 Market Street
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Castro youth housing delayed – again

by Terry Beswick

The devil is in the details, as the saying goes.

Last Thursday, September 7, after the City Attorney's office raised legal objections over unspecified fine print in a contract for a transitional housing project for young adults at 2500 Market Street, the Planning Commission postponed a permit hearing on the project for three weeks, to September 28 at 1:30 p.m.

The one-year contract, which can be renewed for one more year, was drafted and redrafted over the last few weeks during mediated negotiations between a new neighborhood group called "Concerned Castro Neighbors," the Department of Public Health, the Planning Department, and the Ark of Refuge, the nonprofit group selected by DPH to run the program.

"The city attorney was raising some legal issues that we did not have time to iron out," said Marc Trotz, DPH director of housing development.

Opposing sides in the long-simmering debate over the shelter had been prepared to state their case at Thursday's hearing on a conditional use permit for the site – a hearing already disrupted and delayed in a clash between police and protesters over a plan to convert the old Mission Armory into office space for dot-com companies.

Even opponents agree that DPH's transitional housing facility will open in the old gym at the corner of Market and 17th streets across from Harvey Milk Plaza.

The question is when.

Until the Planning Commission approves the project, leases and contracts cannot be signed, and renovation work cannot begin. It is hoped that the program will be operational before winter, and will house up to 15 lesbian and gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning youth adults between the ages of 18 and 24 for stays ranging from three to six months.

But neighbors of the youth housing project say they want to make sure the youth who stay at the facility will get the help they need to get off the streets, and that they want to ensure a minimum disruption to the building's surrounding properties and streets. Despite Trotz's claim that an agreement is at hand, CCN members remain concerned with several aspects of the draft contract, and are withholding their ascent until they see the final wording.

"Today, it breaks my heart to have to stand here and oppose it," said Concerned Castro Neighbors member Pauline Shaver. "What we worked for over a year has been rejected."

"I think the neighbors are really tired of Band-Aid solutions," said District 8 supervisorial candidate Gary Virginia, who said he was opposed to the project, and said that neighbors are still angry about the way it was announced by Supervisor Mark Leno last year. "People told me that it was decided in advance, and they resented that."

Shaver and other CCN members said that they still want more changes to the contract, including additional on-site services, "life skills development" programs, a stronger community advisory board than the one being appointed by DPH, no drop-in services, and a specified minimum length of stay.

Trotz said that a number of changes have already been made to the contract to satisfy the neighbors. There will be a number of on-site services for youth at 2500 Market Street, he said, but it is "not always cost-effective" to put all services under one roof, and agreements with off-site agencies are being drawn up to provide substance abuse counseling, job training and employment services, and permanent housing placement. He also said training programs in "basic living skills will be brought together on site because that is what a residential housing facility is all about."

Angry about the continued delays, proponents accused the CCN team, which has been represented by a hired attorney in their private negotiations with city officials, of being "disingenuous" and negotiating in "bad faith."

"The bottom line is it comes down to class issues," said Tommi Avicolli Mecca. "The Castro is so upscale that people have to fight hard for what they get."

Outside the hearing room, CCN members opposed to the project were wearing professionally printed triangular badges, glued to a large black ribbon and emblazoned with the words, "Concerned Castro Neighbors remember Curtis."

Curtis Oliver Jr., 25, died July 6, a few days after collapsing at a privately-run emergency shelter at the Metropolitan Community Church on Eureka Street. The cause of death is under investigation.

"Reprehensible," said Avicolli Mecca, condemning CCN for using the late Oliver's name in opposing the project. During his life, Oliver had been an advocate for queer youth shelters, as well as a client. "It's like Dr. Laura [Schlessinger] quoting Harvey Milk. I don't think any of them ever lifted a finger to help Curtis when he was alive, and they have no right to be invoking his name." ▼

Parents of murdered boy sue NAMBLA – ACLU to defend group

by Terry Beswick

On October 1, 1997, two men in Massachusetts lured a 10-year-old neighbor boy into their clutches with promises of a free bike. When the child, Jeffrey Curley, resisted their sexual advances, Charles Jaynes, 25, and Salvatore Sicari, 24, smothered him to death with a gasoline-soaked rag. Jaynes allegedly then raped the boy's lifeless corpse, which the murderers then dumped into a Maine river, where it was discovered days later in a container of concrete.

A parent's grief that follows a tragedy as unspeakably horrible as this can know no bounds, and no amount of punishment can ever undo the harm that has been done.

Sicari and Jaynes have both been convicted on charges of kidnapping and murder, though Jaynes will be eligible for parole in 23 years. The boy's parents also successfully sued the killers in civil court, winning a $328 million judgment against them in a wrongful death lawsuit on August 23.

Now the grieving parents are suing again – though this time their target is an organization that their son's murderers belonged to – the North American Man-Boy Love Association, which advocates changing the laws to permit sexual relations between adult men and underage boys. The boy's parents are holding NAMBLA responsible for their son's death by encouraging Jaynes and Sicari to molest children, and are suing the small group for $200 million.

Prior to the killing, one of the dues-paying men had recently visited NAMBLA's now-defunct Web site, and was found with NAMBLA literature in his possession when he was arrested.

On August 31, the American Civil Liberties Union's Massachusetts chapter announced that it would represent NAMBLA in the case.

Since then, the ACLU has been busy defining what the case is – and is not – about.

The ACLU notes that it has defended a wide variety of causes that are unpopular among broad sectors of the public on constitutional grounds, including "a fundamentalist Christian church, a Santerian church, and the International Society for Krishna Consciousness. In celebrated cases, the ACLU has stood up for everyone from Oliver North to the National Socialist Party. In spite of all that, the ACLU has never advocated Christianity, ritual animal sacrifice, trading arms for hostages, or genocide," said the ACLU in a statement. "In representing NAMBLA today, our Massachusetts affiliate does not advocate sexual relationships between adults and children."

"This is about free speech, not pedophilia," Eric Ferrero, a spokesperson for the ACLU's national office in New York, told the *Bay Area Reporter* in a September 8 interview.

While Ferraro emphasized that it's also "not a lesbian and gay rights issue at all," he acknowledged that the case had also become political, and in an effort to deal with the repercussions of the ACLU defending the unpopular NAMBLA, his organization has had its hands full educating the media and public to dispel stereotypes of gay men as child molesters.

The vast majority of child molesters are either straight or have no sexual orientation, according to researchers. Scientific studies identify adults who molest children as either "fixated offenders,"

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South Africa radio host blasts health minister

by S. Predrag

Go away. I cannot take that rubbish any longer. Can you believe it? ... I have never in my life heard such rubbish," John Robbie, a host on 702 Talk Radio, told South African Health Minister Manto Tshabalala-Msimang after she repeatedly refused to spell out whether she believed HIV causes AIDS.

The minister was invited to appear on the talk show after it became known that the Ministry of Health was distributing a document throughout South Africa which claims that international conspirators introduced AIDS to Africa in a bid to reduce its population.

In fact, her officials distributed copies of a chapter of William Cooper's book, *Behold, a Pale Horse*, which claims that John F. Kennedy's death, invasions from outer space, and AIDS are all linked to a conspiracy by the Illuminati – a highly secretive international organization – to reduce the world's population.

Cooper claims the Illuminati introduced AIDS to Africa in 1978 through the smallpox vaccine in an attempt to reduce the African population.

It is beyond belief to many that the South African government, after giving enormous publicity to discredited AIDS dissidents such as Peter Duesberg and David Resnick, now appears to be endorsing the ideas of Cooper, who has often been criticized even among authors of paranormal books.

What is really worrying activists is the fact that this is all happening in a country which is believed to have the fastest-growing AIDS rate in the world – it already has 4.2 million HIV-positive people (10 percent of its total population) and 1,600 new HIV infections daily.



Radio host John Robbie

While the Ministry of Health representative described the distribution of certain parts of Cooper's book as "a routine exchange of information" in order to downplay her embarrassment, the talk show has revealed once again that South African President Thabo Mbeki and his health minister are continuing to question generally accepted scientific belief that HIV causes AIDS.

After the minister of health repeatedly refused to answer whether she believes that HIV causes AIDS, the frustrated talk show host simply said, "I cannot take that rubbish any longer ..."

"I have never in my life heard such rubbish. Here we have a situation where the minister of health sends out a document, amongst others, that is loony tunes, that suggests that the Illuminati have conspired with the aliens to bring about AIDS to reduce the African population.

"The fact that she would not answer that question leads me to be very, very worried indeed," concluded host John Robbie.

Later on, in a comment to the local media, the health minister said that the talk show host "was absolutely rude. If I go on the radio, it is because I want to do a service to the nation." She also said that, "He owes me an apology and owes an apology to all South Africans."

The ruling party – the African National Congress – called upon Radio 702 to apologize to the minister and to the nation for the "shabby, despicable treatment and disrespect shown by their talk show host." The ANC statement insisted that Robbie had abused his position as a journalist and that "he must immediately resign or be dismissed for undermining the noble profession of journalism."

Robbie has said that he will neither resign nor apologize – "My reaction to their statement was one of great disappointment."

However, Robbie was not heard on air for several days following his interview with the minister – it appears that he had taken some days off.

While officials claim that the incriminating document (Cooper's chapter on the origin of AIDS), which was marked "for African ears only," was sent unsolicited to the Ministry of Health, one opposition politician asked, "Why is she (Tshabalala-Msimang) wasting taxpayers' money on photocopying this total nonsense document?"

Former South African President Nelson Mandela spoke at the 13th International AIDS Conference in Durban in July and called on Mbeki's government to start giving drugs immediately to HIV-positive expectant mothers in order to prevent mother-to-child transmission of the disease.

"History will judge us harshly if we fail to do so now and right now," Mandela said.

His successor, Mbeki, however, still insists that, "We cannot blame everything on a single virus ... poverty is the underlying cause of reduced life expectancy..." ▼

Jesse Jackson calls for end to 'AIDS exceptionalism'

by Bob Roehr

The Reverend Jesse Jackson Sr. called for the end of public health policies that treat HIV differently than other diseases. His remarks came in a keynote address to the National Conference on Correctional Health Care, on Monday, September 11, in St. Louis.

Should there be mandatory HIV testing of prisoners upon entering a jail, asked one participant? "Yes," said Jackson without hesitation, "There are no up sides to ignorance."

He pointed out that "among the privileged, there are health care checks now." He used the examples of Magic Johnson who had to take a health exam to play basketball, and corporate executives who often have to do the same on an annual basis.

"I'm not sure that everybody in America is ready to take it [an HIV test] now, but they ought to take it," said Jackson. "But the results should be private."

"Some people will never stop lying about how they got it. ... 'I am not gay, it must have been two bulls, and I ate the infected hamburger or something.' ... They will not stop lying." Jackson said. "We have to get past that foolishness."

An African American physician in the audience vented his frustration with public health policy in the state where he works that "restricts our ability for preventative medicine." He mentioned the lack of HIV reporting and legal restriction from informing sexual partners of the patient as he would with other sexually transmitted diseases.

"By some foolish law, he can't tell the household that help is needed and death is on the way," recounted Jackson. He called for protests and demonstrations to "fight the politics of fear," perhaps by an organized series of press conferences by doctors "to dramatically demonstrate foolish laws."

Jackson explained that the Rainbow Coalition and Operation Push, organizations that he leads, are coordinating a thousand African American churches to make HIV a major focus of their work. Pastors are being urged to take an HIV test in front of their flocks, and challenge the men in their congregations to do the same.

"If Magic Johnson had not taken the HIV test early, HIV would have matured into AIDS, he would have spread it to his wife and children. But early detection has led to suppression," he said.

"We must have mass testing and mass educational and modified behavior," said Jackson. "We have to get beyond the foolishness of not teaching health and sex education."

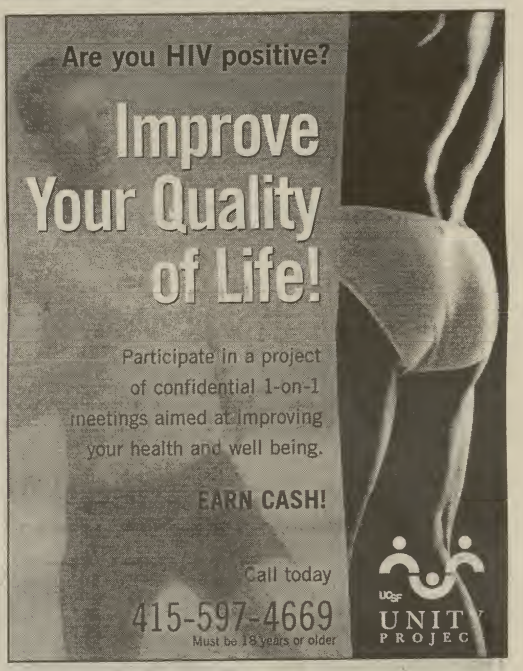
Jackson called it "a moral challenge for people of faith" to reach down to people to lift them up. He used the example of Jesus, who in his last act, chose to stay the night "in the quarantined shelter of Simon the leper. We don't quite know if Simon really was black, or white, or brown. We know he was sick and he needed to be cared for."

Jackson asked the audience "to challenge this notion of quarantining people." He remind them that, "People of character are measured by how they treat the damned, the disinherited, and those in despair." ▼

Midlife Gay Men's Barbeque
MGM is hosting a free barbeque & membership meeting on **Sunday September 17th** at noon in MHR Church garden (Ellard Hall if rain), 100 Diamond Street @ 18th St., **San Francisco**. Bisexuals welcome. No reservations necessary. For our free **Calendar of Upcoming Events:**
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AIDS and other infectious diseases as a national security threat

by Phillip Alden, Survive AIDS Writers Pool

On May 1, White House spokesman Joe Lockhart acknowledged a report from the Central Intelligence Agency that was presented to the National Security Council that states that AIDS and other infectious diseases will decimate populations all over the world and pose a number of problems for the United States.

Lockhart said that the NSC considers AIDS a U.S. national security issue in view of the "staggering" and "destabilizing" number of deaths it is causing in some African countries.

"They have an impact on us," he said. "We have an interest in Africa, as far as our own national security, and we need to look at this problem."

The report, entitled "The Global Infectious Disease Threat and Its Implications for the United States" [1] estimates the mortality figures and the specifics of government destabilization. It states that the increasing rate of drug-resistant microbes, the lag in the development of new antibiotics, the rise of mega-cities, environmental degradation and the growing frequency of cross-border movements are the base causes of infectious disease spread.

Infectious diseases are the leading cause of death worldwide, and accounted for 54 million deaths in 1998. Recent changes in human behavior, including land use patterns and lifestyle, increased trade and travel, rapidly mutating pathogens, and the inappropriate use of antibiotic drugs are causative factors involved in worldwide disease spread.

HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis are going to account for the majority of deaths over the next 10 to 20 years. In the United States, emerging drug-resistant AIDS viruses are going to be a major factor in the mortality rate. There are currently 4 million Americans carrying the hepatitis C virus, and deaths from hepatitis C could surpass AIDS deaths in the United States over the next five years. There are also multi-drug resistant TB and AIDS-TB co-infection, influenza, emerging antimicrobial viruses, and food-born illnesses.

The United States pales by comparison to sub-Saharan Africa, which will account for 50 percent of all global deaths due to infectious agents, mostly AIDS, TB, and malaria. Asia and the Pacific, where multi-drug resistant HIV, TB, malaria, and cholera are already prevalent will wipe out large segments of the populations in those regions. The former Soviet Union is already undergoing an underreported rise in diphtheria, dysentery, cholera, and hepatitis B and C. This is caused mostly by a crumbling health-care system due to economic decline. The Middle East, North Africa, and Western Europe are facing threats posed by AIDS, TB, and hepatitis.

The gap between rich and poor countries is growing, and that gap will make it difficult for any third-party intervention. The United States simply cannot respond effectively to all these threats. As worldwide health care declines it will become increasingly difficult for the medical and activist communities to provide effective relief.

The socioeconomic impact of infectious disease in poor countries is already being felt. Losses in gross domestic product, reduced life expectancy, a weakened military, social fragmentation, and political destabilization are all factors in this growing threat. For example, there are tons of grain in sub-Saharan Africa that are not being harvested and brought to market because there are not enough healthy people to do the work. This in turn leads to greater starvation rates. In this same region, there are already over a million children orphaned by AIDS. These children often end up on the street where they are victimized and exposed to violence and the same infectious diseases that killed their parents.



Losses in gross domestic product, reduced life expectancy, a weakened military, social fragmentation, and political destabilization are all factors in this growing threat.

While the report clearly states the facts, it fails to convey the human suffering. The loss of parents and siblings, the agony of caring for dying friends and family, starvation, lack of water, lack of medications; these are factors that cannot be enumerated.

The direct threat to the United States lies in international commerce, global peacekeeping efforts, and the presence of American military personnel and civilians overseas. Future embargoes on foreign goods and restricted entry to U.S. soil will increase friction between the U.S. and its global trading partners.

The report states that social fragmentation, political polarization, and economic decay will hamper progress in the fight against infectious disease.

Due to the damage in productivity and the resulting loss of foreign investment, AIDS will be the single greatest threat to economic development in sub-Saharan Africa, the area currently hit hardest by the epidemic. One major worry is the loss of upper-level managers and skilled workers due to AIDS. African companies are already feeling the impact of AIDS deaths in some key sectors.

The risk to U.S. citizens lies in the threat of infectious diseases. The most likely culprits will be HIV/AIDS, hepatitis C, food-borne illnesses, antimicrobial-resistant pathogens, TB, and influenza. Other lesser players may be malaria, cholera, dengue[2], and foreign animal diseases among Americans traveling abroad. Fortunately the United States has one of the best medical and research systems in the world, and U.S. citizens are unlikely to incur the majority of direct deaths.

In what will surely result as a major sore point with other governments, the United States may sharply limit entry onto U.S. soil, and the American military may also balk at engaging in peacekeeping missions in dangerous areas. The U.S. will also likely limit any imports that may carry viral pathogens. This will cause friction between the U.S. and some of its trading partners.

There will surely be a conflict between anger at the U.S. for limiting the factors mentioned above and the desire for medicines and research that will come from U.S. scientists and corporations. It's akin to wanting to bite the hand while it feeds you. It's also likely that Americans overseas could run into hostility when traveling abroad regardless of their purpose on foreign soil. The CIA is of the opinion that enmity could increase the chances of bio-terrorism on U.S. soil, and they feel that this threat might be greater than the threat of medical epidemics. Surely the greatest damage will be felt in the national psyche, when Americans want to help fight a situation that is both compelling and an uphill battle, with limited resources. ▼

Notes

[1] "The Global Infectious Disease Threat and Its Implications for the United States" can be viewed online at: http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/report/nie99-17d.html

[2] Dengue is a virus that is spread by mosquitoes in tropical and semi-arid areas of the world, and is characterized by fever. Dengue can be treated by swift diagnosis and effective medical intervention.

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Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. Please follow normal rules of capitalization – and no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste.

If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. They must be submitted within a year of the death.

Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m., with the exception of special display ad obituaries, which must be submitted by Friday at 3 p.m.

Peter Gosman Bates

April 29, 1964 — August 10, 2000



This unique and wonderful man died unexpectedly and without warning on August 10, 2000. His unique approach to life was only one of the aspects coupled with so many other wonderful characteristics that made him one of a kind. Peter always made the best of things, no matter what the situation. His honesty and ability to live by his word never compromised his life goal of doing exactly what he wanted. His efforts paid off with success, amazing those around him. Peter had no problem making friends, and like most people, he wanted to be liked, and he was. Peter Gosman Bates was simply an experience.

He is survived by his partner, companion, confidant and best friend Robert Serrato; his two daughters, whom he loved more than anything this life can provide, his precious Jessica and Lauren Bates; his loving mother and father, whose life-long support, encouragement, love and understanding for Peter was a model he felt deserving of great attention; his brothers Tom & Mike, and his sister Tracy, the three siblings who contributed to so many of Peter's greatest experiences, and the three who should know that every friend of Peter's — and there are many — has enjoyed and endured hours and hours of home movies, photo albums, and personal stories that brought him so much joy. And he is survived by his close friends whom he included in his extended family, Cesi Cortez, Vanessa Cortez, Bianca Cortez, Jack Boujackelin, Kurt Barrie and Dave Longfellow, and many, many more friends, relatives, and people. We are all thankful for the memories you gave us, the laughter we shared and the Peter experience that made you feel one of a kind.

Peter, I will carry on your legacy and remember and live by what I learned from you. — Robert

Jim Corbett

James Corbett, of the Tenderloin, around 67, died recently of cancer. He managed The Eagle Tavern, and helped found the California Eagles motorcycle club. A cribbage expert, he played in competitions. His residential hotel held a well-attended memorial service on August 30, 2000. Jim is missed by Patrick, Aaron, Dalf, Dolores, Gloria, Tim, Tony & family, Yolanda, Tortúga, Ditzi, et alii. *Requiescat in pace.*

Claude Schwob

June 16, 1910 — July 24, 2000



Claude was born in New York but grew up in France. He received his doctorate from Fordham University in 1931. He enlisted in the U.S. Army in WWII and worked on the Manhattan Project at both the University of Chicago and Los Alamos, New Mexico. He went on to become a professor and one of the nation's leading experts on radiation.

Claude loved San Gregorio Beach, Russian river, the pool at the Oasis, beautiful men and photography. He was an early supporter of programs for homeless gay youth, including Hospitality House. His other volunteer work included support for the Bay Area Hearing Society, the United Way, and On Lok Senior Services.

Claude was filled with pride, wisdom and love for his friends. He was known for the intense sparkle in his eyes. All are welcome to remember him in a gathering at the north windmill in Golden Gate Park on Saturday, September 16 at 1 p.m.

Contra Costa LGBT center's grand opening

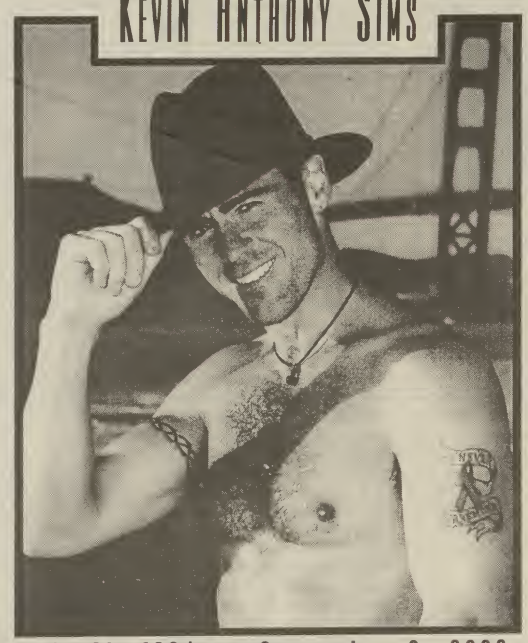
by Terry Beswick

The Rainbow Community Center of Contra Costa County has moved to Concord, and is having its grand opening this weekend at 2118 Willow Pass Road, Suite 500. The event will be held on Friday, September 15 from 4 to 8 p.m., and Saturday, September 16 from 3 to 5 p.m.

Margaret Walker, executive director of RCC, said that the opening will make the center more visible to Contra Costa's LGBT community. Although RCC moved last December from its Pleasant Hill locale, Walker said that many people have not yet seen the new facility. RCC provides a space for social activities and information about services available to the community.

For more information, call (925) 692-0090. ▼

KEVIN ANTHONY SIMS



July 21, 1964 - September 8, 2000

Kevin left this earth after battling a gallant fight with HIV/AIDS lasting 17 years.
His parents, George and Geraldine Sims; his former companions, Ernie and John ("LB"); close friends Chris and Ron; and his beloved dog, "Krystle", precede him in death.
Kevin is survived by brothers John and George; sisters Celia, Angie, Kim and Diana; 11 nephews and nieces as well as his dear friends Rick, Dana, and Lisa; his longtime companion Gary and his lifetime lover and partner, Jeffrey. He is also survived by his "girls", Chelsea and Amber.
Kevin had a passion for music, especially Country and Western (Vince Gill), Circuit Party Dance Music, and Rock (Kiss).
His hobbies included painting, Martha Stewart, movies ("Jeffrey"), and sports (Chicago Bulls). He loved amusement parks, travel, shopping, two-stepping ("tush-push"), and eating at the "Cove Cave".
He was born in Evergreen Park, Illinois. After graduating high school in Houston, Texas, Kevin moved to Louisiana and then West to the "city by the Bay". While in San Francisco, he worked at I. Magnin's beauty salon and at PacificBell.
A service will be held at the AIDS Memorial Grove in Golden Gate Park at the circle of Friends at 1:30pm on Saturday September 16, 2000.
Kevin's amazing and inspiring magic was his ability to touch family, friends and lovers with his beauty and heart.

"It is only with the heart that one can see rightly, what is essential is invisible to the eye."
-- Antoine de Saint-Exupery, "The Little Prince"



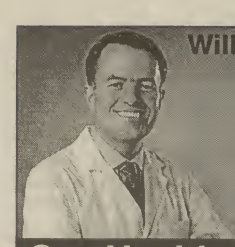
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Please note that participants who have CMV detected in the blood on study might receive placebo or valganciclovir; but all participants who develop CMV retinitis will have access to oral valganciclovir treatment.
For more information, call Dr. Mark Jacobson
UCSF Adult AIDS Clinical Trials Unit
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Dreamland

by Jim Provenzano

Ah, the pageantry of the Olympics. The drug tests, the corporate branding, the commemorative merchandise.

One prize that's been weighing down my coffee table for months is *The Sydney Dream.*

Published by the same folks who put out the elegantly erotic *Blue* and *Black + White* art photo books, *The Sydney Dream* features some of the Olympics' Australian jocks in the altogether.

With a nice balance of eroticism and athleticism, *The Sydney Dream* takes the classic *Interview* magazine 1984 Olympics Bruce Weber collection further, with more exposure, more athletes, and a lot more water.

Over a dozen photographers (Gavin O'Neill, Lyn Balzer, Anthony Perkins, Gaby Hughes, among others) have artfully captured jocks like boxer Paul Miller and women's water polo player Bronwyn Mayer in a variety of artful poses (i.e., no willies, several nipples).

Michell, ma belle

Best of show: the men's water polo team, natch. Everybody else is classically nude, but they've still got those cute hats. While the pictures of men can be found on more celebrity sports nude collections online than you get shake a Java script at, fewer include the daring and artful pics of women athletes like diver Chantelle Michell.

"I've watched so many opening ceremonies and always hoped one day it would be me walking out with the Australian team. That's what keeps me going," she says in a quote from the book. Fourth in the three-meter dive, second in the one-meter dive at the World Cup, Michell is hoping to perfect her "forward two-and-a-half somersault with a twist."



Lyn Balzer and Anthony Perkins

Chick with stick: Field hockey player Rechelle Hawkes of the Telstra Hockeyroos will enjoy her fourth Olympics.

Brief biographical sketches on the subjects make this more than a objectification of athletic beauty, and an appreciation of the wonders of the human form. The luxury of underwater shots gives credence to the mythological relation between people who become dolphins, and dolphins who become Olympians.

You may have a problem getting a copy of *The Sydney Dream.* When I graciously received a review copy at the Chicago BookExpo, they'd already sold out of their first edition. I know the feeling.

Copies of *The Atlanta Dream,* the 1996 version of this book featuring that year's Aussie contenders, are still available at $45 AUS. You'll have to do the math.

You can contact Studio Magazines at Level 3, York House, 101-111 William Street, Sydney 2011. E-mail: ed@studio.com.au, but I think they're a little busy right now.



Gavin O'Neill

Maidenhead: Chantelle Michell

Book 'em

NBC's coverage will certainly include nary a nipple, and be limited to profiles with a myopic ethnocentric focus on U.S. athletes. Read up on the big picture. Here are some other tomes whose press releases came my way. They didn't give me a free copy (not that I asked), but they get less space anyway.

Inside the Olympic Industry: Power, Politics and Activism (SUNY Press, $19.95) looks at the recent bribing scandals and their effect on the Games. Perhaps someone should send a copy to Mark Janssens. Where is he these days, Bolivia?

The Complete Book of the Summer Olympics by David Wallechinsky (Overlook, $23.95) and *The Olympic Games: Athens 1896-Sydney 2000* from Dorling Kindersley (DK, $29.95) are comprehensive historical overviews of the Games. Little mention of the gay folk, of course.

Track and field athletes come into their own during the Games. A few of them get huge cereal contracts afterward. Two titles to look out for are *Michael Johnson: Sprinter Deluxe* (GHB – that's the press, not the drug – $12.95) and *See How She Runs: Marion Jones & the Making of a Champion* by Ron Rapoport (Algonquin, $21.95), like we need any more press about Marion. No longer a bio book or mag cover story, everything's in triplicate for max-ploitation.

The U.S. swimmers will be wearing puritan body suits this Olympiad. For a retrospective of the days when guys showed more, and made a lot of poolside straight cameramen nervous ("I said pan up, Fred! Pan up! That kid's sproingin!"), check out *First to the Wall, 100 Years of Olympic Swimming* by Kelly A. Gonsalves (FreeStyle, $24.95).

If only I'd saved that Mark Spitz poster from my youth, I'd be paying a mortgage from one eBay sale.

next page ▶

HIVCare Clinical Research

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- Decreases KS-associated swelling

HIVCare Clinical Research Department is a Non-profit program of Saint Francis Memorial Hospital, 900 Hyde Street, San Francisco.
For more information, call Mark Bowers at 415-353-6215.

Ducal coronation Saturday

by Terry Beswick

If you've never been to a royal wedding, here's your chance. This Saturday, September 16, San Francisco's reigning Grand Duke Michael Parsons and Grand Duchess China Silk invite all comers to the celebration of the Ducal Court coronation weekend, which climaxes with "Coronation 2000: A Royal Russian Wedding" on Saturday, September 16 at the Ramada Plaza Hotel International at 1231 Market Street in the hotel's Grand Ballroom. Doors open at 6 p.m. and the coronation begins at 7 p.m. Tickets are $25.

But to get the full flavor of the festivities, there are four other related events this weekend, beginning with the "Engagement" event that kicks off the coronations tonight (Thursday, September 14) at Tango Tango, 1550 California Street at 9 p.m. Admission is $5.

On Friday, September 15 at the Nob Hill Theater at 729 Bush Street, hostesses Goldblatt and Sally Vivacious present "Bachelor Party." Doors open at 7 p.m.; the show starts at 8. "Reigning monarchs only" will be permitted to perform, and tickets are $15 in advance and $30 at the door.

After Saturday's coronation, there will be a "Happily Ever After Victory Brunch" on Sunday, September 17 at 11 a.m. at the Pendulum bar at 4146 18th at Castro streets. Admission is free.

And finally, a "Bridal Shower" will be held on Saturday, September 16 in room 745 of the Ramada Plaza Hotel from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For more information, call Grand Duke Michael Parsons at (415) 401-0082, Grand Duchess China Silk (Marc Chinn) at (415) 979-2299, ext. 355, or see www.chinasilk.org. ▼

David Parker

◀ page 2

ciary Committee hearing in favor of the Sexual Orientation Protection Act for Maryland.

"This was the first time I spoke in a public setting about what's fair for gay and lesbian people. It was then I remembered growing up in Salisbury [Maryland] and thinking of the young people who were having trouble in their schools because of who they were," he said.

Parker had praise for new Superintendent Arlene Ackerman when it comes to her financial acumen, as he is familiar with her from when she ran the public schools in Washington, D.C. However, Parker had more reserved comments about how he felt she worked with LGBT activists in Washington. "We need a superintendent who will be compassionate and sympathetic to the needs of all the students in the school district," he said. "Arlene Ackerman didn't do anything for the gay and lesbian community. I hope when I'm elected I can get Ms. Ackerman to listen to the concerns of the LGBTQQ community."

One topic of concern to Parker is the district's adherence to Proposition 227, which requires students to be taught in English. Right now, Parker said the district is losing $600,000 a year for not complying with the proposition. "Although Proposition 227 may not be popular, especially in a city as diverse as San Francisco, it does not excuse the San Francisco school board to disregard the state."

Another example of the board's poor fiscal management involves the district's purchase two years ago of a vacant office building for $7.7 million. Since April 1999, the district has been trying to sell the building. "Those are seven-plus million dollars that San Francisco students and teachers do not have," he said.

As for charter schools, Parker said that while he's skeptical of the Edison Project that privatized a San Francisco school, there are charter programs that work. One such program is in Baltimore, he said, where the principal, teachers, parents, and community members run the school. "That program is still working and I think that's a good program."

Parker has been endorsed by a variety of local residents, including Supervisor Mark Leno; Myrna Lim of the national Women's Political Caucus and a candidate for supervisor in District 11; Melvin Wong, a financial litigation consultant; and Pat Solis, the parent of a student at Leadership High School. ▼

Sports Complex

◀ previous page

Ball and change

The San Francisco Gay Softball League (SFGSL) announces Fall Ball, the latest series for diamond lovers. If you're interested in playing softball, wish to join a team, hone your skills, or just want to have fun wearing the cute uniform, come on out and play.

Fall Ball will be held on Saturday, September 16 and Saturday, September 30, from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Rossi Field located at Arguello Street between Edward and Anza streets. There will be a $2 charge to cover cost of fields.

The SFGSL will be the proud sponsor of the 25th annual Gay World Series, August 11-18 in the year of Saint Kubrick, 2001. If you are interested in joining the league, visit their Web site at www.sfgsl.org or (415)436-0707.

The SFGSL consists of 35 teams and offers all levels of play for all genders. It's a great way to meet new people. So jump on the ball and come out to Fall Ball. But you don't have to be out to fall into the ball game.

One of the Bay Area's many teams is the Pendulum Pirates. Visit their Web site at http://www.PendulumPirates.homepage.com/

Speaking of ball players, Billy Bean, who made headlines when he came out last year, has been quoted as saying he still greatly misses his chosen sport. And who wouldn't? He told the Ft. Lauderdale (Florida) *Sun-Sentinel* about his desire to get a front office job with a major league team.

I can think of thousands of folks who'd like to see him back in athletics, not that his restaurant Mayya is chopped liver, but if baseball's higher-ups have the heart to hire him in any capacity, that would be yet another breakthrough for GLBT sports.

Just please, make him wear the cute uniform again. ▼

For more about Billy Bean, Gay Softball League, and hot links to really, really cute Aussie coffee table books, click to http://sportscomplex.org.

Legal benefit

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rights now ... Who are we? We are committed, caring, loving individuals in a time when desire for greater commitment, greater love, greater fidelity is needed in our society, and I find it so ironic that rather than being embraced and welcomed we are seen as a threat. We are people, some of us, that in recent times endured the scourge of a terrible epidemic, and even in the midst of that epidemic have reached out and formed relationships, cared for each other, holding each other, sometimes as death has arrived. Don't tell me about what a committed relationship is and isn't. I've watched my gay brothers care for each other deeply and my lesbian sisters nurse and care. There is no love and no commitment any greater than what I've seen, what I know."

Lippert's involvement with the good fight does not end in the Legislature; he is also the executive director of the Samara Foundation of Vermont, an organization that provides scholarships for students who are dedicated to furthering equality for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning community.

Tuesday's fundraiser will be held from 5-7 p.m. and guests are encouraged to stay and have dinner after the reception; call the restaurant at (415) 431-0692 for dinner reservations. The Pride Law Fund, a project of Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom, grants project opportunities and money to law students committed to making a positive difference. For more information on the fundraiser, call (415) 437-5711. ▼

NAMBLA

◀ page 18

who are attracted exclusively to children and develop neither a gay or straight adult sexual orientation, and those like Curley's killers, "regressed offenders," who are overwhelmingly heterosexual men who engage in child molestation after developing an adult sexual orientation.

Most child molesters are straight relatives, according to one major study of boys molested by men, published in the professional journal *Adolescence*, which reported "a child's risk of being molested by his or her relative's heterosexual partner is over 100 times greater than by someone who might be identifiable as homosexual, lesbian, or bisexual."

While the case is not directly about gay rights, the ACLU said that if NAMBLA's rights to free speech are effectively curtailed, it could have a chilling effect on free speech rights for everyone.

"The controversial free speech issues that are at stake in this case are some of the most powerful tools we have to fight for lesbian and gay rights, wherever they are threatened," said Ferrero. "Do you hold a group responsible for the actions of a few?" ▼

Stop AIDS

◀ page 13

electronica dance vocalist Kathleen Antonia; Bogo, a global fusion ensemble; cabaret singer Veronica Klaus; and soulful harmony group Pinay.

Proceeds will go to support local prevention programs of the Stop AIDS Project. Founded in 1984, the mission of the organization is "to prevent HIV transmission among all gay and bisexual men in San Francisco through multicultural, community-based organizing."

Tickets for the complete event are $50 or $100, which includes a light supper, awards ceremony, and a 9 p.m. dance party featuring deejay Phil B. Tickets for the dance party only are $10. ▼

For more information, contact (415) 575-0150, ext. 260, or visit hivpreventionawards.com.

Blood ban

◀ page 17

tion.

"It is simply bad science that federal regulators single out gay men from donating but allow heterosexuals who are similarly at risk for HIV to donate," Leno said, referring to the fact that heterosexuals who had engaged in unprotected anal intercourse will still be allowed to donate, for example, while gay men who had even one episode of oral sex, or anal sex with a condom, within the last year will be prohibited from donating.

Currently, in addition to men who have had sex with men, potential donors are also excluded if they have engaged in prostitution, if they have used intravenous drugs, or if they are hemophiliac and have received clotting factor concentrates, since 1977 – or if they have had sex with any of the above in the last 12 months, among other exclusions. ▼

I KEEP FORGETTING WHEN TO TAKE MY HIV MEDICATIONS!

A research study of an electronic pager system which reminds HIV positive patients when and how to take their HIV medications.

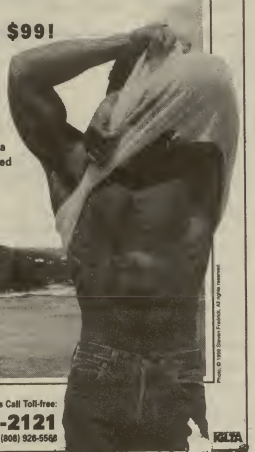
- For those patients who decide to start a regimen of HIV medications, taking the pills at the proper time and in the correct way is crucial to keeping viral load and side effects down.
- Given that current treatment for HIV can require someone to take up to two dozen pills daily, each with different requirements, it is not surprising that patients have difficulty with taking their medication.
- One study has shown that missing just one out of 20 doses of HIV medication can open the door for resistance and treatment failure.
- Studies repeatedly report that the most common reason for patients not taking their medication is simply "forgetting."
- One half of study patients will be given an electronic alert (which looks just like a pager) which will alarm when it is time for a medication, tell them what medication to take and how to take it.
- All participants in the study get to keep a pager at the end of study
- Compensation also provided for this 2 year long study.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, please call Dr. Chris Eden at (415) 759-4126 or email: ceden@marcusconantmd.com

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STATEMENT FILE NO.242824
The following person(s) are doing business as New Pickle Circus. 775 Frederick Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94117. This business is conducted by a corporation non profit, signed Patrick Osbon. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 7/01/00. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 08/15/2000.
AUGUST 24, 31, SEPT. 7, 14, 2000

STATEMENT FILE NO. 314657
In The Superior Court Of The State Of California In And For The County Of San Francisco. In the matter of the Application of Allyson Meredith Kirk. For Change of Name. The application of Allyson Meredith Kirk, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Allyson Meredith Kirk, has filed an application proposing that her name be changed to Ally Wray-Kirk, Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 26th day of October 2000, at 9:00 o'clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.
AUGUST 31, SEPT 7, 14, 21 2000

STATEMENT FILE NO. 314656
In The Superior Court Of The State Of California In And For The County Of San Francisco. In the matter of the Application of Paula Wraychelle Wingert. For Change of Name. The application of Paula Wraychelle Wingert, having been filed In Court, and it appearing from said application that Paula Wraychelle Wingert, has filed an application proposing that her name be changed to Spike Wray-Kirk, Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court In Department 218 on the 26th day of October 2000, at 9:00 o'clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.
AUGUST 31, SEPT 7, 14, 21 2000

STATEMENT FILE NO.243258
The following person(s) are doing business as San Francisco Bicycle Ballet, Bicycle Ballet. 655 #B Haight Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94117. This business Is conducted by an individual signed Carla Jean Laser. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 9/01/00. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 08/15/2000.
SEPTEMBER. 7, 14, 21, 28 2000

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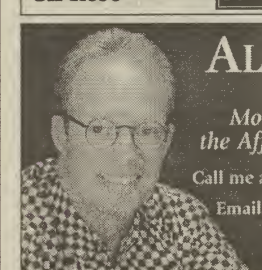

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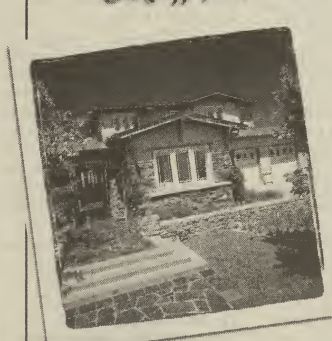
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LEGAL NOTICES

STATEMENT FILE NO.243002
The following person(s) are doing business as Precision Painting & Decorating. 76 Waterville, San Francisco, Ca. 94124. This business is conducted by an individual signed Christopher Rene Hale. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 08/22/2000.
SEPTEMBER. 7, 14, 21, 28 2000

STATEMENT FILE NO.243312
The following person(s) are doing business as Quantum Environmental & Construction, Inc. 294 Palmetto Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94132. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Renato Badiola, president. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 7/21/00. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 09/06/2000.
SEPT. 14, 21, 28, OCT. 5, 2000

STATEMENT FILE NO.243298
The following person(s) are doing business as San Francisco Bike Ballet, Bike Ballet. 655 B Haight Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94117.This business is conducted by an individual signed Carla Jean Laser. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 9/05/00. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 09/05/2000.
SEPT. 14, 21, 28, OCT. 5, 2000

STATEMENT FILE NO.243248
The following person(s) are doing business as Debre Damo Hotel. 106 Fern Court, San Francisco, Ca. 94107. This business is conducted by an individual signed Tsegai Berhe. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 9/01/00. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 09/01/2000.
SEPT. 14, 21, 28, OCT. 5, 2000

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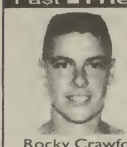
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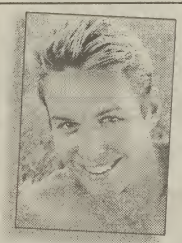
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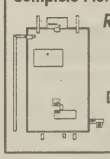
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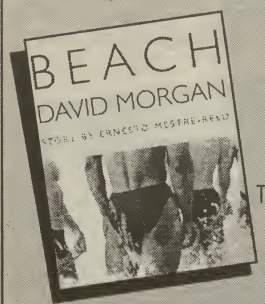
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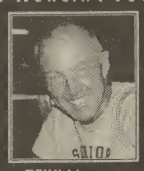
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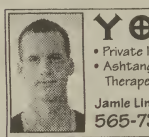
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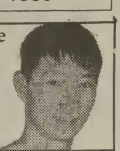
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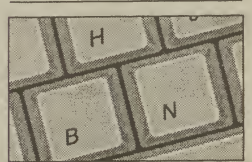
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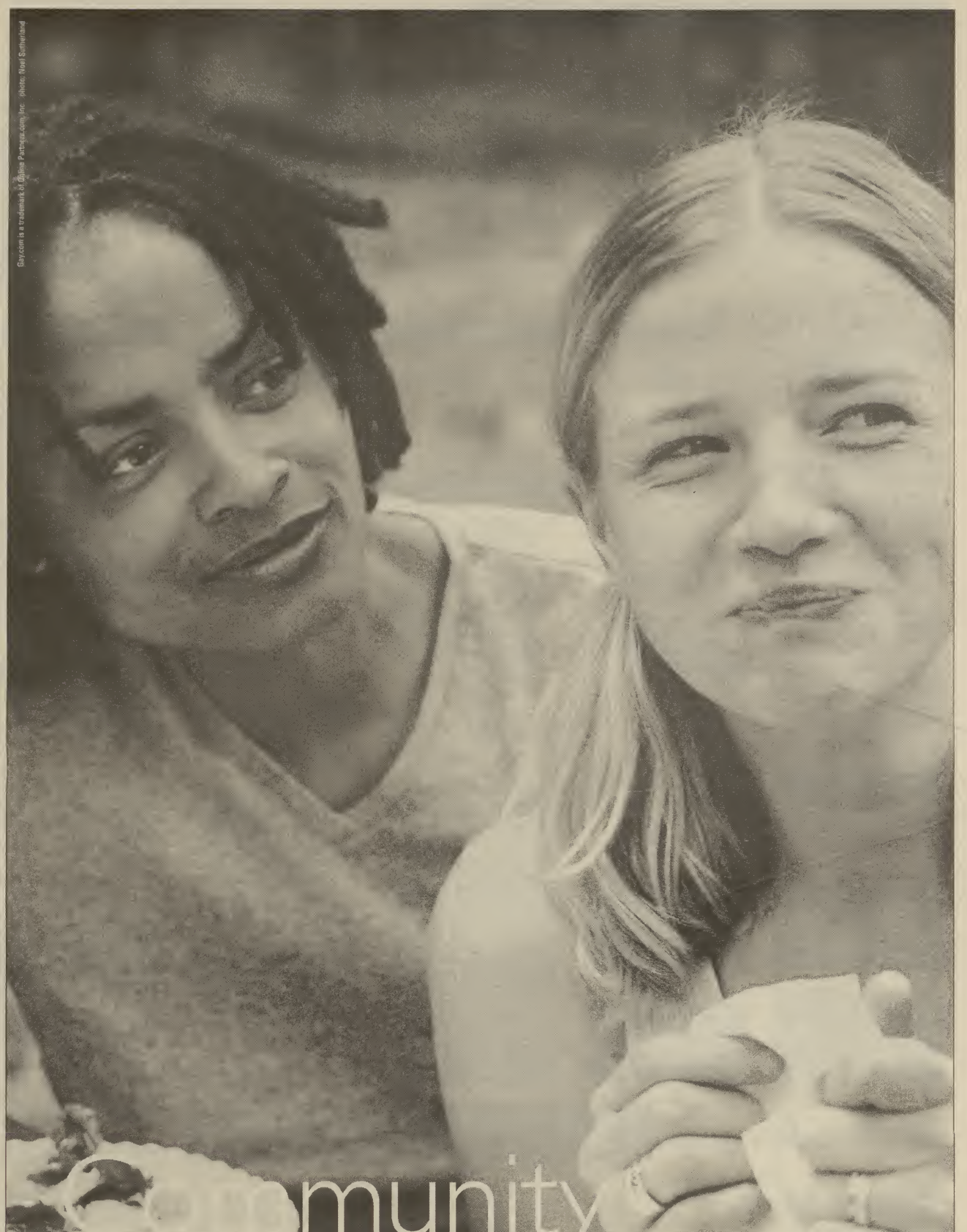
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Early Verdi, early in the season
'Luisa Miller' opens SF Opera's 2000-01 edition at the War Memorial Opera House.
page 37

A 'World' away
42nd Street Moon's rescue of the 'lost' 'Dear World.'
page 36



Underground on film
'Nightclubbing' at YBC captures punk bands live.
page 38



BAY AREA REPORTER
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT
Vol. 30 • No. 37 • 14 September 2000

Eliminating queers

Paragraph 175, on the final solution for German gays, opens at the Castro

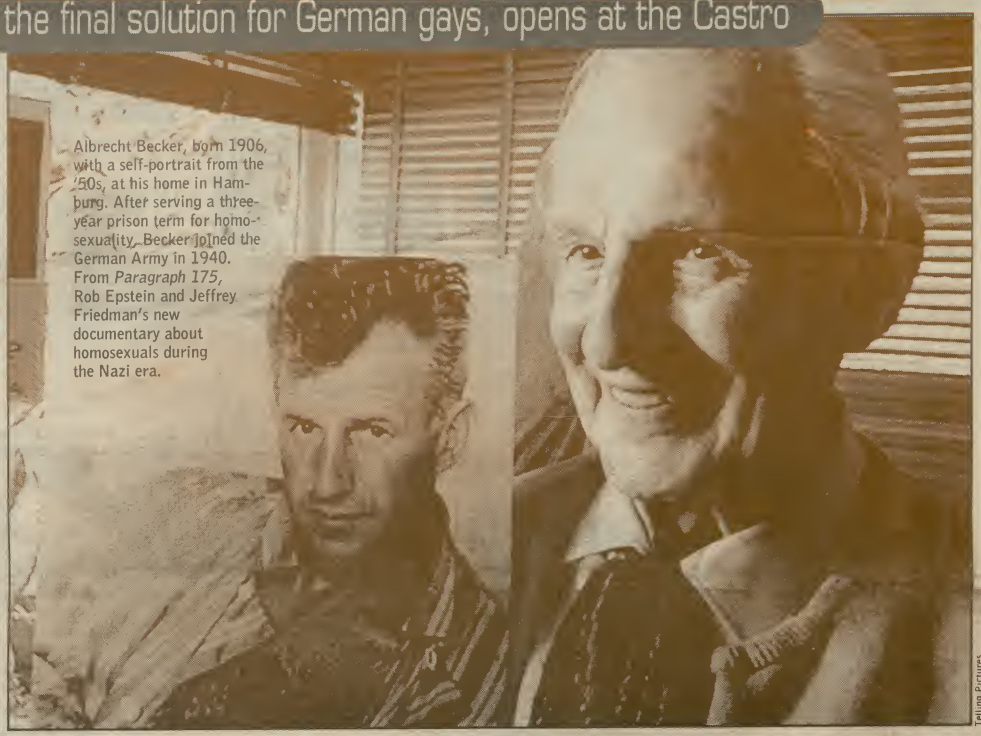
by Robert Julian

It is the privilege, the curse, and ultimately the responsibility of documentary filmmakers to illuminate subjects that most people prefer to ignore. And the treatment of homosexuals in Nazi Germany is one of the most compelling and tragic stories never told. Jeffrey Friedman and Rob Epstein lift the veil of secrecy on this subject with the release of their new documentary, *Paragraph 175*, opening Friday at the Castro Theatre. Employing the quiet detachment that is a hallmark of their work, these filmmakers create a work of haunting elegance, where human suffering, tempered by time, reveals itself in first-person accounts.

Paragraph 175 was a clause in the German Penal Code of 1871 that stated, "An unnatural sex act committed between persons of male sex or by humans with animals is punishable by imprisonment; the loss of civil rights may also be imposed." Rarely enforced during Berlin's wildly ambisexual 1920s, this obscure paragraph was dusted off and expanded by the Nazis when homosexuals began to be vilified in the early 1930s as enemies of the Reich. Between 1933 and 1945, approximately 100,000 men were arrested for homosexuality, most of them German Christians. Many were sent to prison, and between 10,000 and 15,000 were sent to concentration camps. Less than 10 of these men are still alive today.

The filmmakers combine archival footage

page 37 ▶



Albrecht Becker, born 1906, with a self-portrait from the '50s, at his home in Hamburg. After serving a three-year prison term for homosexuality, Becker joined the German Army in 1940. From *Paragraph 175*, Rob Epstein and Jeffrey Friedman's new documentary about homosexuals during the Nazi era.

Telling Pictures

Heart of darkness

Director Jon Shear on *Urbania*



Dan Futterman and Matt Keeslar in a scene from *Urbania*

Unapix Films

by David Lamble

As a first-time director, Jon Shear loves to sit in the dark with hundreds of strangers and guess how this particular crowd will react to his sly/funny/scary little movie. "At Sundance, you would just hear this sobbing, this communal sobbing starting around 20 minutes before the end of the movie. In Seattle, it was sort of like *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* — a ride where people were participating, where people were trying to guess which folk tale was happening, who would be the first to know that this is the toothbrushes-in-the-unhygienic-place story."

Opening Friday, Shear's *Urbania* (inspired by Daniel Reitz's play *Urban Folk Tales*) begins with a disturbingly intimate shot of a man trying to jack off to the soundtrack of a stalker movie on television, supplemented by the animal noises of the upstairs couple. *Urbania* quickly spins out of control through the troubled mind of Charlie (Dan Futterman), who, depending on what you choose to believe, may or may not be such a great guy. Shear likens Charlie to a modern-day Galahad, a knight out to slay a beast; viewers will occasionally wonder if the monster lies within. Ultimately a tale of mourning and redemption, *Urbania* fucks with our sense of reality by weaving shaggy-dog stories (literally, in the case of the old lady who dries her poodle off in the microwave) through Charlie's story,

page 35 ▶

OUT THERE

by Roberto Friedman and Press To Play

At the opening press conference for the National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association confab at the Argent Hotel last week, NLGJA founder **Leroy Aarons** and Annenberg School for Communication professor **Sheila Murphy** announced



Rick Gerharter

Sheila Murphy at NLGJA meeting

the results of their 10-year study of lesbians and gays in the newsrooms. When the room of mostly mainstream journalists oooo'ed and aaaah'ed at the graphics portion of her presentation, Murphy quipped, "You people really need to get *out* more!" The pun was unintended but true, and it got a rise out of the audience anyway.

ABC News anchor **Peter Jennings**, who had been announced for a Saturday afternoon panel, canceled — perhaps unsurprisingly — and was replaced by a satellite hook-up with **Clinton** "war room" pol-turned-pundit **George Stephanopolous**. We're delighted to report that broadband cable works really well in transmitting the image of teeny, tiny political commentators.

We'd fill you in on the rest of the confab, but NLGJA was being really stingy with press credentials. You'd think that a bunch of journalists would understand the importance of granting local press access, wouldn't you?

Social creatures that we are, we turned up anyway at the confab's "Men's Social" on Friday night, thrown "Where the Wild Things Are" in the Metreon megalith. (The lesbians were sequestered across the street, bowling.) The media men loved the **Maurice Sendak**-based amusement, and Out There watched more than a few take up a mallet and smack down the noggins of animatronic goblins they might have imagined were (for writers) their editors or (for editors) their writers!

Despite plenty of free liquor and the possibilities presented by the attraction's maze of dark rooms filled with mirrors, the gay scribes were for the most part on their very best (yawn) behavior. It was where the wild things were not.

But we are just being our usual contrary selves. In fact, the NLGJA put on a helluva conference, and there was even a **Mad Tickler** loose at the social. Our favorite moment came when a reporter from Sarasota, Florida approached us and told us he loved our act: he thought we were members of the **Kinsey Sicks** out of drag!

Side dish

By contrast, the SF Jazz Festival launch last week at Splendido was, as usual, an exemplar of gracious hospitality. Guests of honor included vibraphonist **Bobby Hutcherson** and 1rst annual Beacon Award winner **Eddie Marshall**, who for some years was the house drummer at the legendary SF jazz club Keystone Korner. Marshall accepted his award on behalf of his fellow side men everywhere ("Side men don't really get that much play!") and noted that, as a recent appointee to the SF Arts Commission, "now you'll have to refer to me as the *Honorable* Eddie Marshall."

Sultry-voiced singer **Paula West** proved beyond the shadow



Roberto Friedman

Singer Paula West at Splendido

of a doubt that she is a real trouper by performing with a small jazz combo in front of a room full of ravenous journalists stampeding for the buffet.

The 18th annual installment of the Jazz Fest begins October 25: certain highlights include a salsa dance party with **Celia Cruz** and



"Queen of Salsa" Celia Cruz

Oscar D'León at the Civic Auditorium on Sat., Oct. 28; **Cecil Taylor**, solo piano, the same night at the Herbst; immortal piano-player **McCoy Tyner** tickling the ivories for two shows at the Herbst, Sat., Nov. 4; much more. Ticket info: 788-SFJF.



Out There

Even Plusher

Our date for the opening of the refurbished Plush Room last week, in which **Sharon McNight** brought down the house with her spot-on **Sophie Tucker,** is one of the proud few who can say he saw La Tucker perform — on one of her very last tours, with fellow vaudevillian **Georgie Jessel**, in Detroit. Our cabaret maven didn't mention the exact year that this transpired, but assures us he was a very young thing at the time!

As Sophie, Sharon belted out crowd-pleasers and dispensed many valuable words of advice, including, "When you're single, you look for a man every day. When you're married, you look for a man every night!"

McNight also revealed that, later this fall, she will be appearing as **Mae West** in a new attraction, *Come Up and See Me Sometime,* to open off-Broadway. "I seem to only play dead blondes!"

Spotted in the opening-night audience: former *Vogue* editor and current Old Navy tout **Carrie Donovan**, sipping a cocktail. "[Martini] technology never looked so good!"



Mark L. Chester

Mark Chester up in flames, a self-portrait from 1984

Tic tac Bruce

"Hollywood Square" **Bruce Vilanch** proved anything but during an SRO book-signing at A Different Light last Wednesday night. When the very hairy bear was asked by local glampressario **Hostess Huestis** about the slew of hottie gay contestants on the game show, Vilanch revealed that "there were tons on the first year, but they proved too light in the loafers — well, flat-out dumb. Many simply forgot how to play tic-tac-toe."

Other bon-bons Vilanch fed the crowd: "I enjoy riding to SF in my sporty new car. One of the best



Ron Krisel

Bruce Vilanch

features is a voice-activated smart radio: I tell it to play oldies, it plays the station with **Marvin Gaye**. I tell it to dial in a country station, and **Garth Brooks** appears. The first time it broke down, I screamed, 'You fucking bitch!' Immediately, **Dr. Laura** came on...

"I often palled around with the late great Square **Paul Lynde**," Vilanch said. "His favorite pick-up line was, 'I'm looking for **Attila the Hun**.' I just say, 'Attila, come here, Hon!'

"One of my favorite jokes to get cut out of the Oscarcast — the year *American Tail* was up — 'We asked **Richard Gere** to present with **Fievel** the mouse. Unfortunately, Fievel backed out at the last moment.'"

Ba, ba, boom! Nothing like a good Richard Gere *crack.*

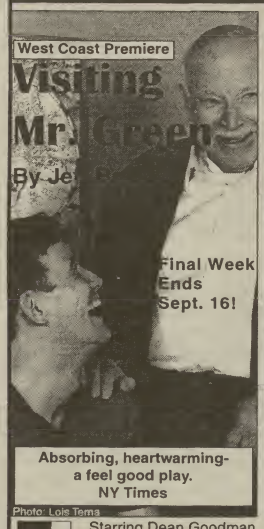
Signs of the times

Our favorite feature of the SF Opera Gala dedicated to outgoing general director **Lotfi Mansouri** last week was the spectacle of those **society types** trying to sidestep the protesters who had staked out the entrance to the opera house. By now it's an annual rite: the head-on collision between the world-weary wealthy, decked out in their obscenely pricey *shmatas,* and **a few brave souls** with a social conscience.

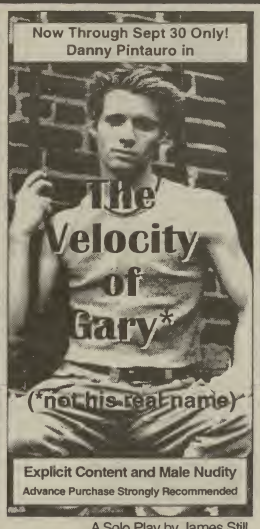
Try as they might, the society photographers from the *Ex* and the *Chron* just couldn't shoot around the members of **AARGG!** ("All Against Ruthless, Greedy Gentrification") and their handmade signs: Evicted Artist, Evicted Teacher, Evicted Cop. For every opera patron who's made a killing from real estate speculation in the

next page ▶

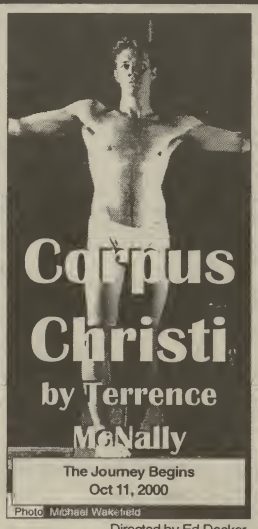
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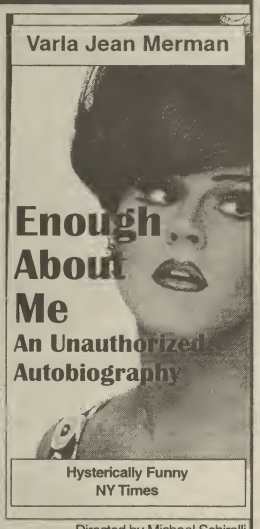
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Package tour

Exhibitionist revue 'Naked Boys Singing!'

by Richard Dodds

Is the glass half empty or half full? Is *Naked Boys Singing!* better than you expected or not as good as you hoped?

If you are expecting mindless sexploitation, then this musical revue at Theatre Rhino may come as a mildly pleasant surprise. But if you have heard the hype that, despite its title, *Naked Boys Singing!* is actually charming musical theater, then you may feel a little let down.

Originally created as a lifeline for the ailing Celebration Theatre in Los Angeles, *Naked Boys Singing!* has become a long-running New York hit. Expectations are high for the locally cast San Francisco production that its presenters hope to transfer to another theater once its Theatre Rhino run is completed.

For me, this second encounter with the musical proved considerably more ingratiating than did the first in New York. The winter matinee in a drafty theater (with a lightboard operator punctuating the action with a hacking cough) probably was not the optimal circumstance to experience this particular show, nor did the shopworn cast provide any redeeming distractions for this viewer.

The circumstances of Theatre Rhino's production are much more inviting, the cast more appealing if not always as polished, and expectations for the material already dealt with. That material is made up of 16 numbers that are over in 90 minutes, which includes a 15-minute intermission. You can't say *Naked Boys* overstays its welcome.

Written by a consortium of 13 writers, the songs skip lightly through a variety of subjects having to do with birthday-suit issues: a bris, gay gyms, porn stars, nude modeling, awkward adolescence, masturbation. They are all pleasant ditties that would seem slight indeed if unaccompanied by the ongoing exhibitionist gimmick.

F. Allen Sawyer has directed the show with high spirits and smooth dispatch, and the seven-member cast performs with confidant body language. Mostly they display amiable charms that don't oversell the material and help keep the comfort level high.

Tom Orr, James Quedado, Isaac Brantner, Peter Fogel, Jared Fortunato, Arturo Galster and Steve Clay provide a unity of spirit in a diversity of packages. ▼

***Naked Boys Singing!* will run through Oct. 22 at Theatre Rhino. Tickets are $20 and $25. Call 861-5079.**



Steve Savage / Savage Photography

The cast of *Naked Boys Singing!*, clockwise from top left: James Quedado, Steve Clay, Peter Fogel, Jared Fortunato, Tom Orr, Isaac Brantner, and Arturo Galster.

Are you experienced?

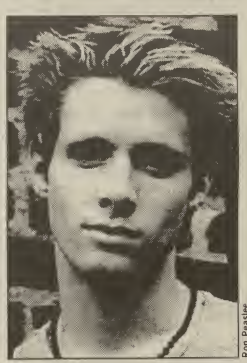
One-man 'The Velocity of Gary' at NCTC

by Richard Dodds

Who's the Boss? was an eight-year TV hit that no one seemed to watch. At least, no one I knew ever did. I did know that the stars were Tony Danza and Judith Light, and that there were some children on the show. Who could have imagined that one of those sitcom kids could mature into the canny theater artist on stage at the New Conservatory Theatre Center?

Danny Pintauro, who played an uncomplicated adolescent on television, is now starring as a seething mass of contradictions in *The Velocity of Gary (Not His Real Name)*. For more than 90 minutes, the 24-year-old actor holds the stage, portraying not only a naïve gay hustler working Times Square, but also his colorfully varied friends and lovers.

Playwright-actor James Still created the one-man show as a vehicle for himself, and he performed it around the country for a decade. But the role of Gary seems tailor-made for the trim, slim, and diminutively appealing Pintauro, whose pudgy TV face has given way to a handsome angularity. On stage at least, Pintauro no longer looks like the boy next door.



Ron Paulsen

Danny Pintauro

Already on stage when the audience arrives, the scantily clad actor is dancing provocatively to a techno beat, his head jerking around to check out any newcomers to the auditorium. When he first speaks, it's all come-hither braggadocio. He's experienced beyond his years, yet in many ways still a child.

We never learn much about where he came from, or even his real name. Both the past and the future are fuzzy for Gary, and he sees the present as an ongoing adventure where, he repeats, "anything can happen." But there are fissures in the façade that can reveal his longings for a tenderness that finds some fulfillment with a bisexual grifter who has "a voice like a saxophone fucking a cello."

The playwright may sometimes put an unlikely poetry into Gary's mouth, but mostly he finds a balance between vernacular authenticity and the need for theatrical expression. The play can also tiptoe to the edge of sentimentality, but always pulls back from the precipice. When a baby enters Gary's life and he asks her name, the mother replies, "Hope... not her real name." A lovely moment, that.

Gary replays his story through a patchwork of flashbacks, and Pintauro expertly makes the emotional leaps, not only for Gary but for the other characters as well. There is a clean honesty to the young actor's work that is polished without seeming slick. The play is perhaps 10 or 15 minutes too long, a problem that can't be blamed on Pintauro or his resourceful director, Mark Cannistraro.

The Velocity of Gary is a brave and challenging choice for a young actor who first found fame in a medium often devoid of those traits. The velocity of Danny Pintauro is now at full tilt. ▼

***The Velocity of Gary (Not His Real Name)* will run at the New Conservatory Theatre Center through Sept. 30. Tickets are $18 - $30. Call 861-8972.**

Out There

◀ previous page

Bay Area, there's a working stiff who finds his home suddenly unaffordable. To those who won't let us ignore economic injustice, we say, Bravo!

In briefs

• San Francisco gay radical sex photographer **Mark I. Chester** has announced *Outcasts*, a show of his work from 1969-2000, at his studio, 1229 Folsom St. The opening, on Friday, Sept. 15, 8-11 p.m., coincides with Chester's 50th birthday.

Chester's studio will also be open on Sat., Sept. 23, 1-6 p.m., and Noon-6 p.m. on Folsom St. Fair day, Sun., Sept. 24. The suggested donation is $3-5.

• SF Board of Supervisors President Tom Ammiano is set to headline the first *Gay, Lesbian, Transgender, Transsexual and Other Loose Change Comedy Night*, Sat., Sept. 16, 7 p.m. at the Edinburgh Castle, 950 Geary St. The new theme comedy nights at the Castle are being produced by former *Chronicle* Datebook editor **David Kleinberg**.

Ammiano on being a famous fag: "I get death threats all the time. In fact, I got a call the other night from a guy who said, 'You're a fucking faggot, and I'm gonna kill you.' And I said, '**Willie**, you gotta stop these calls!'" ▼

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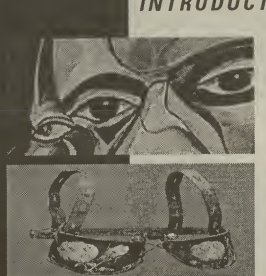


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42nd Street Moon's 'Dear World'

by Richard Dodds

Dear World was such a sure-fire hit that I bought my parents tickets (at $12.50 a piece!) to the Broadway-bound musical for Christmas of 1968. But soon there were gossip-column items that Angela Lansbury was begging producer Alexander H. Cohen to close the show in Boston. That he declined to do, and the production was battered by the New York critics and coasted on its hefty advance sale for 132 performances.

And my parents, whom I had previously sent to *Mame*? They admitted to dozing off during the performance.

In fact, we had all been expecting another *Mame*. Jerry Herman was again writing the songs, Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee were back to write the book, and Lansbury was in her first musical since becoming the toast of Manhattan as Mame Dennis.

What Herman later claimed he conceived as an intimate chamber musical was booked into one of the largest Broadway theaters, and then inflated with production values to fill it. But *The Madwoman of Chaillot* is a far different piece of material from *Auntie Mame*, and the cross-purposes and misdirected expectations doomed the production.

After its failure, Herman, Lawrence, and Lee revised the show to what they said they had always wanted it to be. That is the version that 42nd Street Moon is presenting in the appropriately chamber-like circumstances of its staged-concert series of "lost" musicals. It's a gently enjoyable experience that leads 42nd Street Moon in a different direction.

Many of the musicals that the troupe revives are song-heavy shows with slapdash books that flourished before *Oklahoma!* came along. But *Dear World* preserves much of Jean Giraudoux's *The Madwoman of Chaillot*, and the result is more a play with music than traditional musical comedy.

Herman's score largely eschews his trademark razzle-dazzle for a pleasing collection of ballads and anthems. His major lapse is in the title song, which lamely tries to recapture the popular appeal of his title songs for *Hello, Dolly!* and *Mame*. But director Greg MacKellan has restored two appealing songs that had been cut before the show got to Broadway.

MacKellan's cast is a varied lot, with obviously fresh talents working alongside veteran performers. As Countess Aurelia, the "madwoman" who foils a big-business conspiracy to raze Paris for the oil beneath its landmarks, the estimable Meg Mackay is a wise choice. She possesses the stage presence to focus the production, and the vocal and acting talents to drive the material.

Coralie Persse and Bettina Devin, two other actresses with considerable résumés, provide exquisite work as the countess' fellow madwomen. A green but ingratiating Mike Earley and a low-key Lianne Marie Dobbs play the young lovers, while a believably gruff Nick Hoffa and an unusually mannered Steve Rhyne essay the villains of the play.

Of course, the story is now highly dated. It's impossible to believe that politicians and businessmen would conspire to gut the soul of a fabled city for financial gain. It's all a fantasy, right? ▼

***Dear World* will run at the Eureka Theatre through Sept. 24. Tickets are $22 and $25. Call 788-1125.**



David Allen

Steve Rhyne and Meg Mackay in 42nd Street Moon's *Dear World*

Flights of fancy

ACT's 'Hans Christian Andersen'

by Richard Dodds

The official title of ACT's season opener is *Frank Loesser's Hans Christian Andersen*, but the addition of the late songwriter's name is surely more a contractual issue than a creative one. While all of Loesser's songs from the 1952 movie musical are heard, augmented with several less memorable tunes from two failed stage musicals, what's on stage should most accurately be called *Martha Clarke's Hans Christian Andersen*.

The songs are often incidental to what the forward-looking director has achieved for this erratic psycho-biography of the Danish weaver of fairy tales. Using an elaborate system of trap doors and suspension wires, characters rise from beneath the stage and float in from the rafters. They tumble, they glide, they hover, and they soar in Clarke's exquisitely dream-like aerial choreography, which can sometimes look like a Magritte painting come to life or a magic-mushroom version of *Peter Pan*.

This is a biography as an extended dream, as Hans Christian Andersen wafts through episodes of his life and the stories they apparently inspired. I say "apparently," because in Sebastian Barry's new script, the leaps from personal experiences to realized fairy tales can seem tenuous.

Andersen is recalling, he tells us, "the things that hurt me into what I am." They include an impoverished childhood, a cruel schoolmaster, and an unrequited love affair. "For more than 50 years," he concludes, "I have been the shadow of my true self."

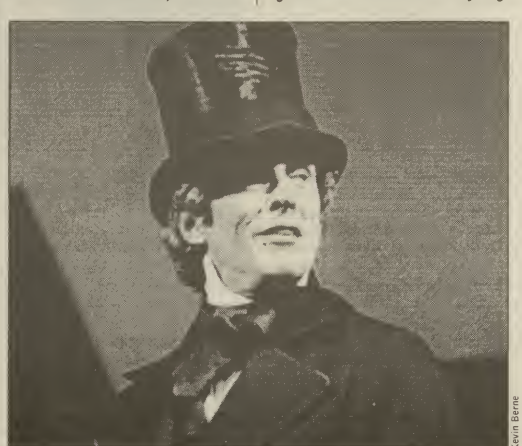
But this insight is more explained than revealed through the series of the scenes that, in the first act particularly, at times barely seem to register — at least not until someone takes flight. John Glover, who won a Tony Award for *Love! Valour! Compassion!*, also seems tentative in the early scenes as Hans Christian Andersen, adopting an odd accent as he plays himself as a boy.

But Glover hits his stride as the second act begins and he stands alone on stage to deliver a story about a teapot. In Glover's hands, this monologue about a piece of pottery with a Zen-like philosophy toward existence actually had the audience reacting audibly to its twists and turns. As the second act continues, Glover shows more and more range in a role without clear borders.

Beyond Glover, the ensemble cast remains part of the fabric. But veteran avant-garde dancer Rob Besserer, as Hans Christian Andersen's Shadow, who may be found standing askew on a rooftop or somersaulting through the ether, is noteworthy.

Hans Christian Andersen is a gentle journey through one creative man's tumultuous soul. The story never really feels grounded, but you cannot say the production fails to take flight. ▼

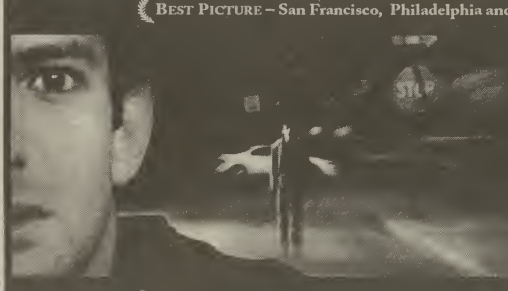
***Frank Loesser's Hans Christian Andersen* will run at the Geary Theatre through Oct. 8. Tickets are $21-$67. Call 749-2228 or go online at www.act-sfbay.org.**



Kevin Berne

John Glover as *Hans Christian Andersen*

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OPERA

Passion unfulfilled

San Francisco Opera's 'Luisa Miller'

by Stephanie von Buchau

During the first two acts of Verdi's *Luisa Miller* at the War Memorial Opera House Saturday night, I thought I was sleepy and out-of-sorts because I'd had too much of Tracy Desjardins' braised short ribs and cinnamon apple crisp. The performance seemed logy and loud, stiff and cold. Donald Runnicles, as he often does on opening nights, because the adrenaline is flowing, had his orchestra pounding and crashing. Seated on the right side, close to the pit, all we could hear during the overture was the thump of the bass drum and the crash of the cymbals. During the applause, I'm ashamed to say I whispered to my companion, "My God, Kurt Herbert Adler lives."

Then the curtain went up on Michael Yeargan's techno-minimalist set, and we were not in the 17th-century Tyrol, but in the weird conceptual world of stage director Francesca Zambello. Thing is, she's smart and imaginative, and one can enjoy her theatrical conceits on the level of superior stagecraft, without ever feeling that she has penetrated to the heart of the composer or of his characters. Granted, *Luisa Miller* is still "early" Verdi, from 1849, and it alternates dreary formulas with off-the-wall modernism such as the unaccompanied quartet, unfortunately here sung mostly out of tune.

In the last act, the composer finally arrives at the Verdian part of the score — unfulfilled passion and father-daughter misery. It's what he did best all his career, and he does it fabulously here. Not surprisingly, the performance suddenly snapped into focus. Zambello's staging got taut and simple. Runnicles began to conduct emotion rather than an orchestra (think about it). Singing the leads for the first time, Patricia Racette and Marcello Giordani, who had been very good up to then, escalated to thrilling. Even baritone Evgenij Dmitriev, pretty much a damp squib as Luisa's father up to that point, improved.

Racette, always a reliable artist but seldom incandescent, sounded strident and unsettled in her difficult first aria. This part calls for a couple of voices — an innocent Donizettian peasant maid, an accomplished bel canto coloratura, *à la* Violetta, and, in the last act, a budding Desdemona. Racette commands all three voices, though she sometimes seems to be singing "at" her listeners, rather than gathering them in. Once Luisa had decided that her world was unbearable and her father talked her out of suicide only to have her jealous lover poison her, Verdi gave Racette enough material to make magic with.

A stud is born

As for Giordani, the Sicilian tenor has always been handsome, upright and honest on stage. After last year's Fernand (*La Favorite*), his "E lucevan le stelle" at Friday's Mansouri Gala (next to Olga Borodina's "Mon coeur," the best pure singing all evening) and this performance as Count Rodolfo, I have no hesitation in naming Giordani a major stud. Forget Roberto Alagna; Giordani is currently singing like a god. His clarity in "Quando le sere al placido," the tapering phrase endings, the electric high notes (with none of that "Now I'm going to have a cerebral hemorrhage" nonsense that disfigured Richard Margison's "Nessun dorma" at the Gala) and his manly, concerned stage presence are as good as you are going to get in this repertory. Can hardly wait for his Gabriele Adorno next summer. (And, as my companion said, "Wouldn't you kill to hear him sing Puccini's Des Grieux?")

Elena Zaremba, making her entrance on a huge wooden horse (which hung around in Luisa's bedroom and other odd places), wore red and lilac satin dresses designed by Dunya Ramicova. She made a pro-active, raucous Countess Frederica, Luisa's rival in love for the hapless Rodolfo.

As for the three vital baritones and basses in this piece, the casting was typical of artistic administrator Christina Scheppelmann. Rumored to be the first casualty of the new Pamela Rosenberg regime, Scheppelmann makes the most peculiarly uninformed choices in low-voiced men.

One of her favorites is Paolo Gavanelli, who withdrew from *Luisa Miller* to be replaced by a young Russian, Evgenij Dmitriev. As an internal source told me after the dress rehearsal, "You'll be wishing for Gavanelli." Without going that far, one can't help wonder how SFO, which used to be one of the half-dozen major opera companies in the world, ends up with a leading baritone on opening night who would sound gauche in the Merola Program? Dmitriev has no stage presence, is way too young to play a grizzled old soldier, and while singing weakly, repeatedly coughed during the entire first set.

Was he ill? Give him credit, he hung in there, and when Miller's music stops hectoring and becomes pathetic and sad, Dmitriev's performance improved 100 percent.

By then, Racette had her pathetic accents working as well, and they conveyed a lot of Verdi's pathos and tenderness. The other two basses never redeemed themselves. I think Gidon Saks (Wurm) was ill; his top notes tended to emerge as strangled yelps. He's a leather man's dream, with swarthy good looks, a trim beard and enough chest hair to stuff a mattress. Thing is, no Verdian baritone should expose his chest hair. Zambello suggested that Wurm's manipulation of Luisa included graphic rape, something all wrong for Verdi, the chastest of composers. (And I am not talking about the text, but about the music; occasionally somebody in opera production should listen to it.)

I love sex on the opera stage — Borodina looked ready to take on the 49ers and the Giants in her seductive Gala excerpt — but it is inappropriate and embarrassing in Verdi.

Even worse vocally was Francesco Ellero d'Artegna as Count Walter, Rodolfo's father and one of Verdi's most relentless villains. His sound is a steady roar, except when it becomes an unsteady roar. It is grating, unsubtle, uncovered and basically torture to listen to. James Morris improvising half the Dutchman's monologue at the Gala, and Ellero d'Artegna and Saks yowling the Walter-Wurm duet qualified as the worst bass/baritone singing of the season so far. And it was only two days old. ▼

***Luisa Miller* continues in repertory through October 1. SF Opera Box Office: 864-3330.**



Larry Merkle

Patricia Racette and Marcello Giordani in SF Opera's *Luisa Miller*

Patricia Racette, always a reliable artist but seldom incandescent, sounded strident and unsettled in her difficult first aria.

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Underground currents

'Nightclubbing' at Yerba Buena Center

by Alex Robertson Textor

Pat Ivers and Emily Armstrong's documentary *Nightclubbing: New York Punk and New Wave, 1975-1980* shows at Yerba Buena Center this Friday, September 15.

Nightclubbing was shot over several years in the late 1970s in various New York City clubs. Originally, the footage gathered to comprise *Nightclubbing* was shown on cable television, in clubs and in galleries.

Obvious highlights of the documentary are the performances by Blondie and the Talking Heads, acts who went on to be hugely successful. Both segments, shot in 1975, catch the bands pre-superstardom. Other bands featured in *Nightclubbing* include the Dead Kennedys, Cramps, Richard Hell and the Voidoids, Iggy Pop, Lounge Lizards, Revlons, Pylon and the Bush Tetras.

Ivers and Armstrong shot these bands with bare-bones framing and orchestration. Crowd shots are limited as well, appearing only minimally. *Nightclubbing* consists almost completely of performances stitched into segments.



Richard Hell and the Voidoids in a scene from *Nightclubbing*

There is no interaction with the documentary-makers whatsoever. This style of filming renders the performances organic, as if the

'Nightclubbing' reveals a now-vanquished New York, a Downtown scene that flourished alongside the disco era and in rejection of it. Gentrification ended the party.

The emphasis is entirely upon the performances themselves. The video stock is grainy in places, and unadorned. Most bands seem to ignore the camera filming them entirely, and they perform without the self-consciousness that television-primed acts exhibit. filming itself was an incidental event.

As far as viewing pleasures are concerned, *Nightclubbing* will clearly be of greater interest to fans of a particular rock 'n' roll trajectory than to a wide audience. Inventive 1970s rock of the type showcased here was still largely driven by instruments as opposed to synthesizers. Many of these acts influenced the directions that pop music took in the 1980s and beyond.

Nightclubbing's aesthetic is interesting in its minimalist adhesion to the substance of the performances themselves. The camera is mediating the performances it captures, but in a very unobtrusive manner. For those with cultish devotion to this music, *Nightclubbing* will thrill. For those without such a predilection, the film will not be of particular interest.

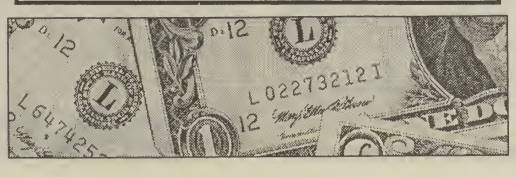
But there is considerable historical value to the clips that comprise *Nightclubbing*. This documentary reveals a now-vanquished New York, a Downtown scene that flourished alongside the disco era and in rejection of it. Gentrification in the 1980s significantly altered the neighborhoods where the underground rock scene exploded.

Nightclubbing is a record of the past also insofar as it provides a peek into a pre-MTV rock world. Today, musical acts are snapped up and pigeonholed efficiently. Music companies blanket with niche targeting and marketing strategies that whittle music and its creators down, into units for sale. This isn't news, of course, but it's interesting to watch these bands create music for a scene that was a fabulous end unto itself.

Nightclubbing screens Fri., Sept. 15 at 8 p.m. Admission is $6; $3 for students, seniors and Center members. The video series continues on Fri., Sept. 22 with a double feature, *Live from CBGBs, 1975-77* (featuring early Blondie and Talking Heads performances) and *Modern Music*, a performance-based selection of performances. On Friday, Sept. 29, another double feature will follow, *Roots of Hardcore* and *Danceteria Video Lounge*. *Roots of Hardcore* is a punk-centered feature; *Danceteria Video Lounge* is less drawn to the margins, including acts as pop-oriented as the Go-Gos and Kid Creole and the Coconuts. ▼

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Urbania

◀ Arts cover

teasing us along the way about what the hell Charlie's story is.

Urbania combines the substance of P.J. Castellaneta's ruminations on odd-couple pairings in films such as *Together Alone* and *Relax... It's Just Sex* with the disjointed nightmare style of Adrian Lyne's *Jacob's Ladder.*

The film sidesteps the trap of upstaging itself or tipping its hand too soon through a combination of deft writing and dazzling editing, with more splices than Hitchcock's *The Birds.* Charlie's quest plays like a tense poker game. He seems instinctively to know when to call someone's bluff or raise the ante. Early in the film, he wanders into a working-class bar and is about to quiz Matt the bartender (Josh Hamilton) about a man he's chasing, when he suddenly realizes where he is. "You don't want to hear this. This isn't that kind of bar, and from the looks of things, you're not that kind of bartender."

Matt takes the bait. "Look, I hold no objections to human needs. We've all been there — the heart racing, pulse beating, penis throbbing." Charlie leans forward in his seat, and Matt, realizing who he's talking to, switches gears. "Hey, look, I don't know you. You don't know me. You don't know what the fuck my story is."

Charlie calls Matt's bluff. "Distract me, man. Take me out of my head for a few minutes."



Unapix Films

Dan Futterman and Alan Cumming in a scene from *Urbania*

Tricks of the trade

Director Shear says that many filmgoers are just as surprised as Matt to learn who Charlie is. "Charlie reveals that he's following a man, and you just hear these gasps, depending on what they've assumed about him."

Shear describes how a theatrical moment is created on screen through a camera trick which first brings Charlie and Matt into the frame together, then allows Matt to step into a past scene where an older woman piles 50 dollar bills on the bar until he agrees to unzip for her. When she dies in a plane crash, she leaves him the insurance. Shear says, "You've used one shot not only to establish a rapport between two people in a bar, but now you've carried him [Matt] over and allowed him to use the story to further his connection.... [This] is the beginning of a series of shots that keeps raising the stakes of how we will find a way to blend [Charlie's] past and present, the story and the storyteller." As Charlie's long night creeps to dawn, the pieces fall into place, and *Urbania* becomes a powerful meditation on urban violence — especially anti-gay violence.

Charlie trumps Matt's story by putting his own $50 down. Shear explains that "Charlie and Matt bond over Matt's limitation. A lot of the movie is about how sexual orientation changes the dynamic between strangers. Charlie and Matt are the only pair of strangers who surmount that issue. [Others have] a hard time reconnecting when sexuality enters the picture."

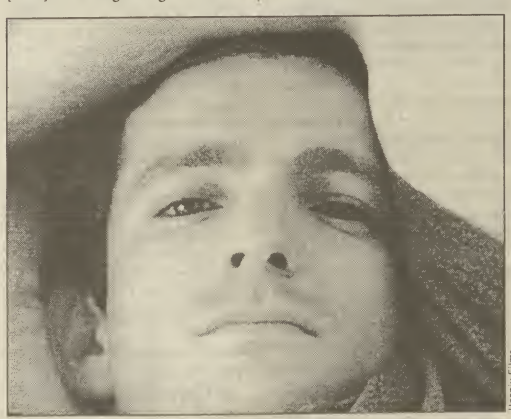
Through the shooting of *Urbania,* Shear had to adjust the film's often unsettling contradictions, to balance paranoia against smug urban cool, and still set us up to feel Charlie's pain and to distinguish it from the pain he's constantly inflicting on others. Dan Futterman brought his infectious grin to the role of Charlie, a casting coup. "The movie lives or dies based on his performance," says Shear. "I wanted an actor who was really fluid, who was both attractive and regular looking, who was sexual in a very flexible way. When you discover who he really likes to sleep with, it doesn't seem like a betrayal. Danny is just capable of anything."

Seeking to capitalize on the undercurrent of dread that runs throughout the movie and anxious to keep audiences from guessing the nature of Charlie's quest, Shear told Futterman and the veteran cast, including Lothaire Bluteau (*Jesus of Montreal*) and Fassbinder starlet Barbara Sukowa (*Berlin Alexanderplatz*), "to play every scene as if it were a comedy, that every scene is to be played as if you have found your soulmate in the stranger." Shear says the cast soon realized they could have quite a lot of fun with this weird little story.

Shear's ability to pull off *Urbania*'s many tricks partly stems from his role in another dark film, Michael Lehmann and Daniel Waters' deadly satire on the price of high school popularity, *Heathers.* "I was Rodney the milk-spewing geek," he says. "My shining moment on laser and DVD is when Lehmann and Waters call me the 'Robert DeNiro of geeks.'"

Shear believes that *Heathers* was prophetic about the social ills that would later explode into Columbine, to which Christian Slater's neo-Jack Nicholson voice would add ironic detachment. "The writer [Waters] had a lot of anger that came out through that character. And there's a similarity with Charlie's character in *Urbania* — each of the scenes puts you further and further into this heart of darkness, where the movie becomes more macabre and scarier and sexier. [Danny does Charlie] with a certain amount of sly wit that keeps you off-balance in the way that was Christian Slater's bailiwick, and which audiences haven't yet seen in a gay character." ▼

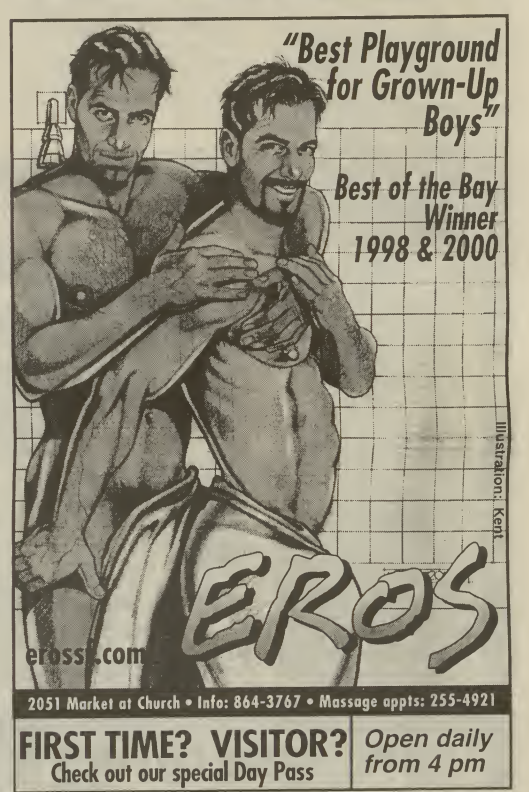
As Charlie's long night creeps to dawn, the pieces fall into place, and 'Urbania' becomes a powerful meditation on urban violence — especially anti-gay violence.



Unapix Films

Dan Futterman as Charlie in a scene from *Urbania*







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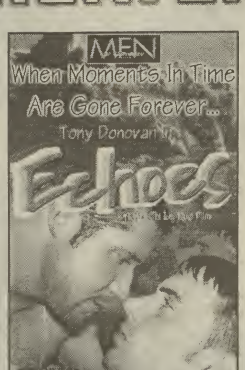
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Bush-league repartee

by Victoria A. Brownworth

The Emmys and MTV Awards are over, the Olympics are about to begin, and we're still in *Survivor* withdrawal. Nevertheless, Dubya has slipped in the polls and Brittany's been banished from the *Big Brother* house.

Ah, life is good.

Yes, without TV we wouldn't have heard the Bush baby's amazingly *gauche* gaffe — calling *New York Times* reporter Adam Clymer a "major-league asshole." We just love seeing people hoisted on their own petards (not that Dubya knows what a petard is). Excuse us, but if the little Bush kid isn't smart enough to know cursing in front of an omnidirectional microphone is a no-no, do we *really* want him in charge of nuclear weaponry? Hello, Rich Tafel, are you listening?

The debate over debates has also cost Bush in the polls. *Larry King Live* just isn't the forum for presidential candidates. Sharing the same stage as the Ramseys and OJ seems to lower the tone just a tad. Refusing serious debates makes Bush look like he's got something to hide. Like his stupidity.



Lavender Tube

Of course, we had hoped the true Bush would come out — that would be the smug, self-absorbed, dumb-ass frat boy — so folks could witness the emperor *sans* clothes. But Americans have historical Alzheimer's — which is why they think Nixon and Reagan were good presidents and Clinton is a bad one, so one can never be sure what they'll do come Election Day. But the fact that the polls show a 20 percent gender gap, with men favoring Bush and women favoring Gore, also proves what we've always known. Men are from Stupid, and women are from Smart.

Well, not always. Look at Eminem and Dr. Laura (especially if you want an appetite suppressant). Dr. Laura's homophobia cost her sponsors galore in her new TV talk-show gambit, which premiered to major yawns September 11. We caught Dr. L on *ET* talking about how the controversy has wreaked havoc on her personal life. Since she looks like hell, we believe it. One could plant corn in the furrows on her brow. We think her contract with Paramount should include biweekly Botox injections.

Shady dealings

Eminem's homophobia won him several awards at MTV's Video Music Awards last week. In his acceptance speech, Mr. Slim Shady told the press to bring it on — all the hype was just selling CDs out the wazoo. Which suggests it's all in how one markets one's hate speech.

Still, the furor over Eminem, like the Stop Dr. Laura campaign, seems a little excessive to us. Like all divas, we love hyperbole, but we sincerely doubt GLAAD's comment that Eminem's lyrics are the *most* hateful *ever*. We *hate* hate speech — most folks with IQs over 70 do. But did we miss the part where GLAAD, which has led the fight against Dr. Laura and Eminem, *also* targeted the other sleazy talk show hosts and sadistic rappers whose messages are virulently anti-queer?

We've always thought the reason that Dr. Laura got tagged over, say, Howard Stern (who's more virulently homophobic than she ever was, and much more popular) was because she's a woman. We think Eminem got marked because he's white. Black rap artists have been spouting homophobia for two decades, and GLAAD didn't notice. Guess the Slim Shady had to make it into the gay clubs for GLAAD to hear rap's often icky message.

We see more than a little paternalism in targeting the white rapper because *black* rap is allegedly a cultural product. Homophobia is just as bad when a black rapper does it as when a white one does. Either we're against *all* hate speech or we're not. Consistency is a trait GLAAD needs to cultivate.

Spin cycle

Speaking of consistency, as one of the only prime time shows not in rerun, *Big Brother* continues to captivate audiences who have nothing better to do six nights a week than watch other people do their laundry (and excuse us, but why couldn't CBS spring for a washer and dryer? We haven't seen a hand-cranked mangle since we watched PBS's *1900 House*) and contemplate their pierced navels — or in George's case, contemplate whether there still *is* a navel buried in that beer belly.

This week, the three most interesting people on *Big Brother* (a relative term; this is *not Survivor* island) are up for banishment. Interestingly, they are also the three minority members of the household: Cassandra, the African-American woman trying in vain to enlighten white America about black folks (a thankless and impossible job); Curtis, the Asian American attorney who's far and away the smartest and increasingly most likable member of the household; and Eddie, the one-legged cancer survivor with lots of att-tee-tuuude.

Meanwhile, vapid, soulless beauty queen Jamie has yet to be up for banishment (why, why?). Nice-but-boring pretty-boy Josh has escaped the ax twice. Unbeknownst to Chicken George, aka Middle America's Everyman, his creepy family has organized marathon phone-ins to banish anyone but George, which is how Brittany got kicked out. (Brittany has now hooked up with former housemate Karen, who left her husband and moved to California. The two are going to live together. Hmmm.)

Speaking of switch-hitting, George continues to play house mascot. Before her banishment, Brittany dyed his hair blue, and this week Jamie dressed him in drag, including hot-pink bra and blue eyeshadow, just for fun. (Don't *all* straight women do this to straight men?)

The most disturbing aspect of the highly disturbing *BB* is the editing. We hear references to conversations about religion and politics, but never actually witness any of these exchanges. Does Cassandra, for example, ever confront any of the housemates on their racism? Does Curtis? Does Eddie ever discuss his disability? What about class and gender issues? Do these things come up in private conversation or in group dynamics? Why have the producers decided all we want to see and hear is relationship-oriented discourse (yawn, yawn, yawn)?

We would also like a substantive challenge instead of these activities geared to toddlers kept inside on a rainy day. The weekly live show is the only thing more tedious than the edited episodes. Watching the housemates squirm in awkward silence as they wait to either hear who is up for banishment or who has been voted out is painful. Plus, we cannot remember a less charismatic TV personality *ever* than host Julie Chen. She's more vicious than Alex Trebek. Does she pull the wings off insects during commercial breaks?

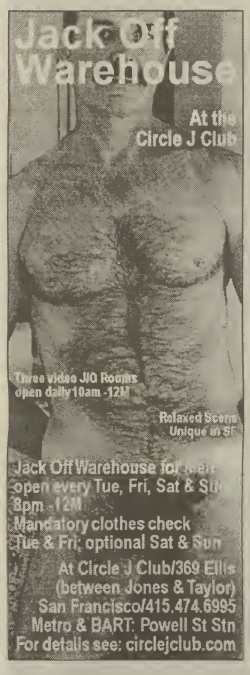
We would like to see a challenge in 'Big Brother' house, not activities for toddlers on a rainy day.

For those with only one hour to kill with TV, tune in to the remaining episodes of ABC's reality show, *Hopkins 24/7*. Airing over six weeks in the Wednesday *20/20* time slot, the show focuses on Baltimore's prestigious Johns Hopkins Hospital and couldn't be more fascinating. Crisp editing and superb reporting make this show a must-see. It's also marvelous to see women and people of color as doctors (perhaps *non* reality-based TV could learn something here), like the pediatric neurosurgeon who is top in his field — and happens to be African American. *Hopkins 24/7* deals with disturbing but substantive issues in medicine today, from inner-city violence to HMOs to AIDS. Well worth watching.

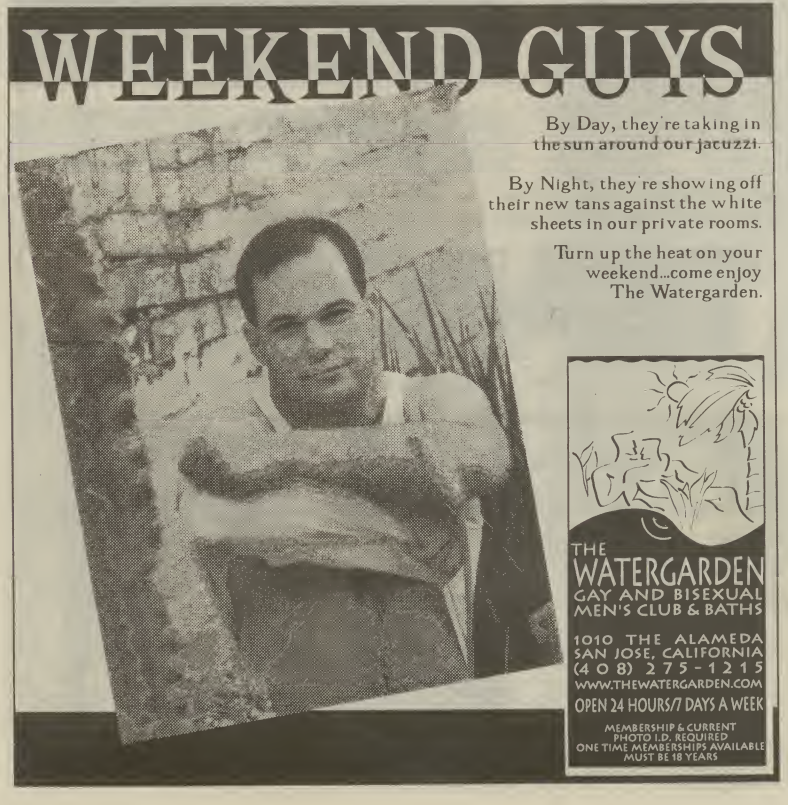
We're ready for the new fall season, which begins on the *WB* next week and everywhere else in October. Daytime talk shows and tabloids premiered last week, and now we know: Oprah hasn't slimmed down over the summer, and neither has Rosie. But we must say Leeza Gibbons looks *fabulous* as the new host of *Extra*, and resident queer reporter Jerry Penacoli has clearly made some pact with the Netherworld — he's aging slower than Dick Clark.

Finally, for those wondering what happened to the person-of-the-week spot on *The View*, Barbara Walters canned it after an embarrassing exchange with America's Sweetheart, Debbie Reynolds. When BW asked Debbie, "What's the most important thing you learned in your life?" Debbie responded, "Where my clitoris is."

Now, that's reality TV. A little too real for ABC and BW, however. ▼







Queer survivors of genocide

Rob Epstein and Jeffrey Friedman discover a lost generation

by David Lamble

In the century between the rise of Chancellor Bismarck in Germany in the early 1870s and the worldwide revolt of queers in the late 1960s, 26 words in the German penal code condemned several generations of sexual nonconformists to a living nightmare of discrimination, legal persecution, and finally, after the rise of Adolph Hitler, extermination. Of the approximately 100,000 men arrested for homosexuality under the Third Reich — as many as 15,000 would wind up in the concentration camps — only about 4,000, forced by Nazi authorities to wear pink triangles as badges of their infamy, would survive and be released, still bearing the stigma of moral depravity. They were denied any recognition of their suffering, any compensation for their ruined lives, or any opportunity to tell their harrowing stories or have the world remember their names.

In *Paragraph 175*, Oscar-winning filmmakers Rob Epstein and Jeffrey Friedman employ their finely-nuanced alchemy of present-day interviews and the hauntingly poetic use of archival records to restore life to an almost-lost generation of homosexual men and women, the spiritual ancestors of today's queer nation, a generation run over by history.

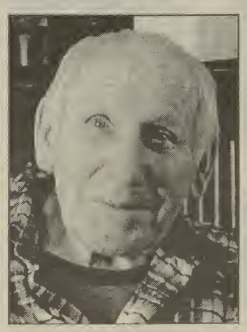
In a recent interview, filmmaker Epstein notes that a crushing irony exists in the use by the modern gay movement of the pink triangle. "There really was no recognition that the men who had actually worn these triangles were still alive. They were aware of gay liberation, but they were not connected with it in any way. I think the isolation that they lived in after the war was one the saddest parts of the story."

It took the diabolical methods of the Nazi Party to make the German anti-sodomy law (a law similar to statutes on the books in half the states in this country) so ruinous to the lives of so many. Epstein and Friedman demonstrate how the perverted and widely popular science of eugenics was employed by the Nazis to accuse queers of corrupting the moral fiber and the very blood of the German people. After the war, these survivors of the Nazi war against homosexuals lacked even the satisfaction of being acknowledged as victims of the Holocaust, the term generally reserved for Jewish victims of the Nazi's Final Solution.

What gives *Paragraph 175* its biggest emotional jolt is the sight of five old men and one woman explaining what it meant to be attracted to your own sex during Germany's version of The Roaring '20s. Ranging in age from their mid-70s to their early 90s, these queer survivors can't be easily lumped together, or their memories sentimentalized. Even their names have an old-fashioned ring to them: Gad Beck, Heinz Dormer, Pierre Seel, Albrecht Becker, Annette Eick and Heinz F.

Cannon fodder

One of the most harrowing stories depicted in *Paragraph 175* is that of Frenchman Pierre Seel. A native of the border region of Alsace-Lorraine, Seel was an almost accidental victim of history. Arrested by French police after naively reporting a theft in a gay club, Seel was interrogated about his sexuality and suspected of involvement with the French resistance. Sent to an internment camp at 17, Seel was used as a kind of sexual cannon fodder by camp guards. He escaped captivity, but not without terrible scars. Allowed to return to his family only on the condition that he never disclose the reason



Heinz Dörmer spent nearly two decades in German prisons and concentration camps.

for his arrest, Seel would later become suicidal after entering a marriage of convenience.

Filmmaker Friedman recalls Seel's anguished ambivalence towards appearing in the film. "It was very painful for him to go back and have to recount it. On the one hand, he desperately wanted to tell [his story] and was hoping for catharsis, but every time he approached it, he had a violently hostile reaction to the German-born interviewer," Dr. Klaus Muller, a German historian working for the US Holocaust Memorial Museum. Muller solicited Epstein and Friedman to undertake the project on the strength of their work deconstructing Hollywood homophobia of the same era in *The Celluloid Closet*. The nakedly emotional confrontation between Seel and Muller is one of *Paragraph 175*'s great moments of catharsis. At one point in the interview, Seel says to Muller, "I'm both angry and, at the same time, I somehow want to spare your feelings."

Friedman notes that Seel did finally come to peace with the project during the film's debut at the Berlin Film Festival. "It was a very emotional experience for him to go back to see the film in Germany. He got a tremendous response from the audience, which he was very moved by. He came to the stage and made this speech of reconciliation to an audience of 1,500 persons."

The film's most upbeat segment comes from the youngest of the survivors, Gad Beck. From a mixed Jewish/Christian background, Beck was able to avoid capture by obtaining Christian identity papers. His raging libido threatened to give him away — he once came on to his high school gym teacher, and later boasted of his conquest to his mother. A natural-born freedom fighter, Beck would later join a hardy band of Zionist resistance workers nestled in the heart of Berlin. Epstein explains that Beck "used his sexuality to further the cause. He traded on his boss's infatuation with him to hide people in his boss's apartment. He also talks about how important it was to have moments of love in that period — he's a real romantic! He attributes a lot of his survival to his great propensity for making love."

With the ability to literally charm the pants off almost anybody, Beck gives the film some of its sweetest moments. "He's one of the people in the film who help give a sense of how free and how much fun gay life was before the Nazis came to power," Friedman says. Ultimately, Beck also provides *Paragraph 175* with one of its almost unbearably painful scenes, as he recounts his near-rescue of his then-lover from a Gestapo transfer camp. Beck had brazenly walked into the camp wearing the uniform of a Hitler Youth. As they walked away from the camp, the lover, Manfred, got cold feet and insisted on returning to captivity to be with his family. Even a half-century later, Beck recalls, as if it had just happened, the last glimpse he had of Manfred walking back into the clutches of the Gestapo.

Epstein and Friedman note the irony of how their work on *Paragraph 175* has echoes of their last film, *The Celluloid Closet*. There were odd similarities between examining the German homosexual rights movement's attempt in the late '20s and early '30s to repeal Paragraph 175, and the open sexuality of Hollywood films made in the early '30s before the production code banned all mention of homosexuality. "The production code happened, interestingly, just about the same time that the Nazis came to power," says Epstein. "I don't know what the connection

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Paragraph 175

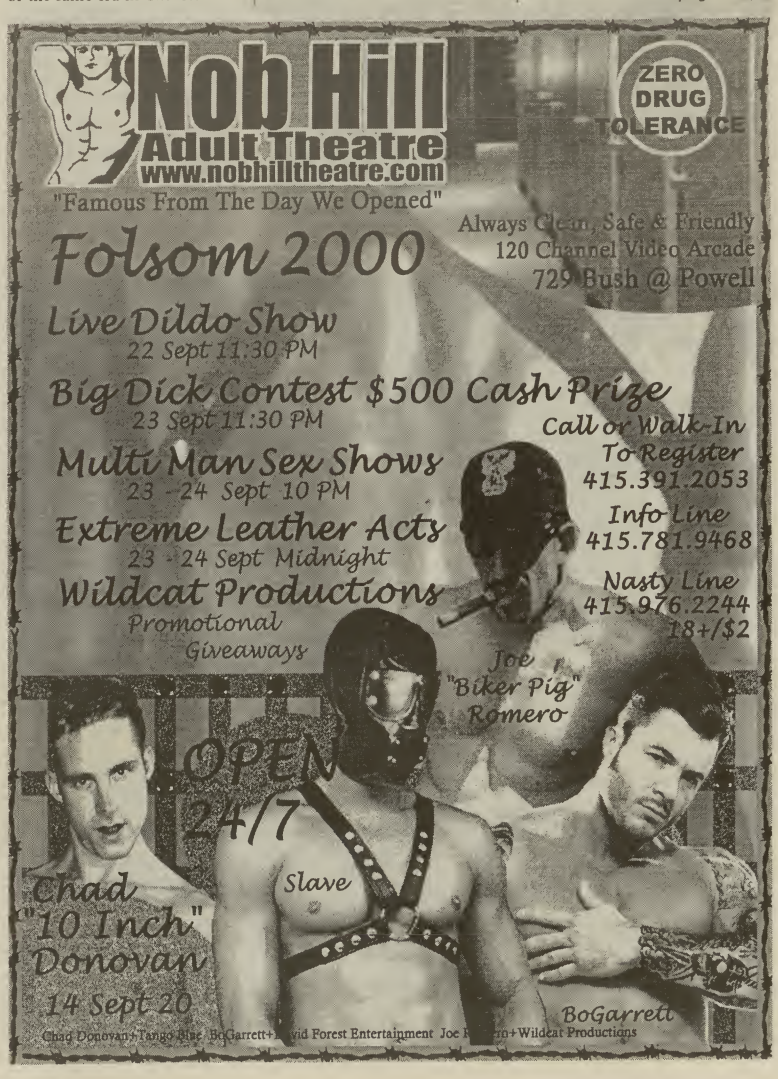
◀ *Arts cover*

and contemporary interviews with five male survivors and one German Jewish lesbian who narrowly escaped a concentration camp by immigrating to London. Most of them reflect back on their initial feeling that, as German nationals, they would be protected from Hitler. But as the mood of the times changed, they each learned of the special hell reserved for them. Although lesbians were not singled out for persecution (because their condition was considered "temporary and treatable"), the life they knew disappeared almost overnight. Thirty days after Hitler became chancellor in 1933, he closed all of Berlin's gay bars. Gay men were arrested without trials and forced into slave labor, medical experiments, or castration. And as several of the survivors testify, gang rape and forced penetration with foreign objects were common tortures. After the war, many of the male homosexuals were actually re-arrested and imprisoned again; all were excluded from reparations by the German government.

Paragraph 175 has an intelligent narration written by Sharon Wood and rendered in hushed tones by Rupert Everett. Tibor Szemzo provides an enigmatic and evocative score, and cinematographer Bernd Meiners' contemporary footage is beautifully blended with historic photos by the film's editor Dawn Logsdon. Although a somewhat somber tone is inevitable, given the film's subject matter, *Paragraph 175* is more provocative than depressing. It forces the viewer to think about society's attitudes toward those perceived as different; and without specific references, it should also force people to consider existing sodomy laws in this country, and the way those laws could similarly be used to persecute individuals.

Inspired by the pioneering research of German historian Dr. Klaus Miller, *Paragraph 175* is a film that is made even more powerful by its overall restraint combined with occasional humorous moments. The most eloquent testimony comes from eyes of the survivors, wordless, distant glances that speak volumes about the human spirit and its capacity for transcendence. Rob Epstein and Jeffrey Friedman have not only taken up the challenge of providing information that many will not want to hear, but they have encapsulated it in the form of an evocative film whose frames unfold quietly, like the pages of an epic poem. The careful observer will find as much meaning in the silences, the spaces between the words, as there is in the film's recitation of history. ▼

***Paragraph 175* opens Sept. 15 at the Castro Theatre.**



Pictures from a vanished city

by Deborah Peifer

When Wayne F. Miller returned to Chicago from his service during World War II, he recalled a shipboard conversation: "Guns and bombs might win the war, but ignorance and suspicion would surely lose the peace. Only through awareness and understanding, we agreed, could foes ever become friends, and friends become neighbors."

Miller was a combat photographer, and he imagined that "with a camera, I might be able to document the things that make this human race of ours a family." Miller was given a grant by the Guggenheim Foundation to photograph "The Way of Life of the Northern Negro." That Miller, a white man, was able to travel the South Side of Chicago and take photographs in black neighborhoods and black homes is a tribute both to him and the people whose lives he witnessed. Some of his astonishing photographs have been collected in *Chicago's South Side, 1946-1948* (University of California, $25). The South Side and Harlem are, in Gordon Parks' words, "cities of blackness crammed inside larger cities of whiteness [that] offered mostly hunger, frustration, and anger to their tenement dwellers."



Wayne F. Miller

From Wayne F. Miller's *Chicago's South Side, 1946-1948*

Parks' commentary offers a personal and historical framework for the work. He explains that "many of Wayne Miller's images slice through me like a razor... . Wayne went to wherever his conscience called him, and his camera's eye baptized whatever confronted him. [Miller] was simply speaking for people who found it hard to speak for themselves."

Miller's subjects are unforgettable, and their images speak volumes about people to whom every promise was broken but who nevertheless endured. Don't miss this breathtaking collection.



Book Report

Dress for success

Cross-dressers are not a new phenomenon. Charlotte Cushman (1816-1876), for example, was considered by many to be the greatest actress of her age, at the height of her career one of the most famous women in the world, renowned for her dramatic portrayals and skill at breeches parts. Aurore Dupin (1804-1876) became the writer George Sand, choosing a masculine name to correspond to her male costumes. Two new biographies explore these 19th-century rebels who were considerably more than what they wore.

George Sand: A Woman's Life Writ Large by Belinda Jack (Knopf, $30) offers a detailed look at this mysterious woman. "She is France's most famous woman writer, but is most known as the famous lover of the celebrated Chopin, and variously described not in relation to her writing but rather as a frigid, bisexual nymphomaniac, or 'Good Lady of Nohant.'"

Jack explores questions of class and gender throughout this highly readable and remarkably entertaining book. Sand was born in 1804, as she described it, "the last year of the [French] Republic, the first year of Empire," and the predictions at her birth reflected the class differences between her parents and their families. Jack explains that Aurore's Aunt Lucie "provided the assembled company with a no doubt predictable augury: 'Born in the midst of pink and music, she will be happy.'" Aurore's father, however, announced, "'She will be called Aurore, like her grandmother, who is not here to bless her, but who will one day.' The humble Aunt Lucie's superstition, her sense of hope, impotent hope, contrasts with the aristocrat's realism, associated not simply with hope but with a sense of his influence, his control, his power over the world. George Sand was a remarkable woman, brought vividly to life by Belinda Jack.

In a fascinating biography, *When Romeo Was a Woman: Charlotte Cushman and Her Circle of Female Spectators* (University of Michigan, $37.50), Lisa Merrill explores the life and milieu of a famous American lesbian actress, who "lived in a tumultuous age when thinking about gender was in flux... . Charlotte Cushman — a woman who loved other woman — was a lightning rod for many of these cultural shifts and changes. In a period when most middle-class women were admonished to be passive, submissive, domestic, and above all, chaste, she endeavored to support herself, her family, and, later, the women with whom she shared her life through her labor in the sexually charged arena of the stage."

Merrill examines Cushman's private and public personae, arguing that the pathologizing of lesbian sexuality by the sexologists of the 20th century led to efforts to "erase her or render her merely unusual, 'odd,' or inconsequential." The Cushman of this book could never be inconsequential. Merrill offers us a compelling look at the ways in which women-loving women find a way to live their lives in spite of cultural efforts to disappear us. *When Romeo Was a Woman* is a biography to relish and reread.

Round of readings

I can't imagine loving books too much, but it seems that such a problem might exist in the world. Find out for yourself when Brenda Knight reads from *Women Who Love Books Too Much* on September 14, 7 p.m. at The Booksmith, 1644 Haight St.

If you've entered the queer baby-boom, or are just thinking about it, you won't want to miss Jess Wells and others reading from *Homefronts: Controversies in Nontraditional Parenting* on September 15, 7 p.m. at Bernal Books, 401 Cortland Ave.

Ever wonder what books readers are reading? In her new book, *The Readers' Choice,* Victoria McMains offers 200 titles culled from the rave recommendations of more than 70 reading groups across the country. She'll discuss things bookish at Cody's Books, 1730 4th St., Berkeley on September 21 at 7 p.m. ▼

If you have gossip, inquiries or information of a literary nature, send them to DeborahPeifer@msn.com, or via snail mail to the B.A.R.

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Paragraph 175

◀ page 37

was, but there was a real clampdown on morality in this country as well in the mid-'30s. It's interesting to look back at time when things seemed as free as you could imagine. We tend to have this idea that there's a progression towards more open-mindedness and freedom. When you look at the long view, you see a lot more cycles of liberation and repression."

Invisible women

Paragraph 175 reclaims a whole thought-to-be-lost history of gay and lesbian clubs, of pre-Nazi gay history in Berlin. Part of that lost history is the once-vibrant world of lesbian clubs and social networks. Annette Eick spent her adult years in England thanks to a fortuitous act by a young woman she had a fierce crush on, a Marlene Dietrich lookalike who sent transit papers, facilitating Eick's escape to London. Otherwise, Eick recalls, she would have joined her family in Auschwitz. She was persecuted not for loving women, but for being of Jewish German ancestry. Just as Paragraph 175 avoided any mention of lesbians, the Nazi authorities mostly overlooked what women did together. German lesbians' fate was mostly to disappear: to leave little trace of the glorious party that had flourished so splendidly and briefly.

Epstein and Friedman note that their work on *Paragraph 175* helped to debunk some myths about gays under the Nazis — the myth of gay Nazis, and the myth of a Nazi Holocaust against gay men. While some Nazi storm troopers under the command of the openly and indiscreetly homosexual Ernst Roehm were homosexual, and Nazi critics often gay-baited Hitler's party as a "sissy army," in fact the Nazis shared the same hostility towards homosexuality as the rest of German society. Roehm, once one of Hitler's closet allies, would later be sacrificed to the cause of consolidating the party's grip on the German state. Hitler's ordered killing of Roehm and many of his troopers was the first of many times that murder would become an official tool of the state under Nazism.

The persecution of gay men, while vicious and sadly effective, was never as systematic as the Final Solution plan to exterminate Europe's Jews and Gypsies. Epstein and Friedman say that the saddest part of the Nazi war on homosexuals was that no one after the war ever saw fit to apologize or in any way make amends to this cursed generation of queer men. Fittingly, the Berlin debut of *Paragraph 175* has led to the introduction of legislation in the German Bundestag offering relief to specifically homosexual Nazi victims. ▼

Songs from the heart

by Jason Serinus

Gay singer/songwriter Mark Weigle, who currently resides in Vallejo, arrived on the gay music scene in 1998, when his groundbreaking first CD, *The Truth Is,* was voted Outvoice CD of the year. The recording also garnered Weigle two GLAMA (Gay and Lesbian American Music Awards) nominations, one for Best Debut Artist, the other for Best Song of the Year. In early 2000, after his song "I Confess" made him one of 25 finalists in the USA Songwriting Competition, the largest and most prestigious songwriting competition in the world, Weigle released his second CD, *All That Matters.*

The 32-year-old singer was born and raised in a semi-rural area west of Minneapolis. The youngest of six children, he was always aware that he had special feeling for other guys. "When I was a young boy," Weigle explains, "I always wanted to be around guys and watch 'em, even though they scared me because I was always small and never real tough."

Finding it difficult to hide his secret desires while living with his Catholic, alcoholic family, Weigle left home the day he graduated high school. After rafting the Colorado River for 18 days, he moved in with his brother in Montana. In a nearby town, he had sex for the first time. "It was really sweet sex," he explains, "but I freaked out that I might have AIDS and give it to my family, and didn't have sex for another three years."

After returning home, Weigle spent two years singing in a heavy metal band. "A lot of what being in a really loud heavy metal band was about was being real angry and frustrated and not being able to come out, and pushing people away so they wouldn't find out and reject me," he confesses. "At the same time, I had this sensitive, gentle part inside; I would yell heavy metal, and then go home and write quiet songs on my acoustic guitar. My song 'Celebrity,' which I wrote in 1989, is about being in the band and being closeted."

After serving as a buddy and Service Coordinator at AIDS Project Minneapolis, Weigle came to San Francisco in 1990 to attend the New Pacific Academy, a summer training school for political and social activists. Founded by Cleve Jones (who started the Names Project), its goal was to support and educate the next generation of lesbian/gay leaders. While in San Francisco, Mark met his first lover, with whom he lived for three years. He also spent seven years working at a Crisis Center for teenagers, doing 25-hour shifts as a residential counselor.

"When I first picked up guitar," he confesses, "it was mostly a lot of processing and angst, and processing through my hurts. My 20s were about healing myself so I could put myself out to the world. Now I've integrated much more of the happy parts of life, because I can feel some happiness in my soul."

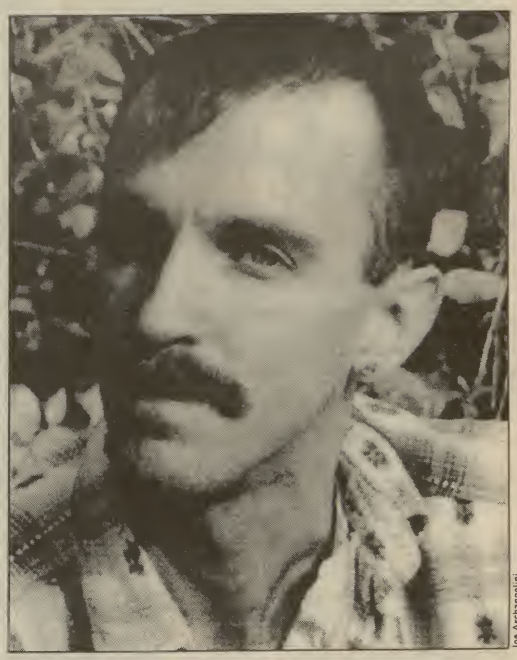
Billy boy

Weigle's coming out as a songwriter was at the talent shows of the Billy Club, a Northern California-based group of heart-centered men whose mission is to establish intimacy and community among gay and bisexual men, and to build bridges with supportive communities. Acknowledging that he wouldn't know who he is as a gay man or be doing what he's doing "if it weren't for the validation I received from the Billies," Weigle dedicated his first CD to the group.

Weigle says he writes his gay songs "in a way that anyone can clue into them, in the same way that one doesn't have to be black to connect with the emotions in *The Color Purple.* I want my music to be accessible enough so that the people who need to go a little deeper can hear it."

Weigle has chosen to push his "soul-rewarding" career on the grassroots level. At his busiest last April, he did 10 shows in 12 nights in New York and New Jersey, a mix of acoustic-music club dates, colleges, gay community centers, Pride Festivals and house shows. Instead of targeting hip clubs, Weigle goes "where people are at," building his mailing list and increasing his following. While he sometimes writes commercial country music for a publisher in Nashville, he acknowledges that he doesn't fit the narrow country mold.

"My music deals with emotions. It's not dance music or cabaret or ultra hip/cool/trendy. It's songs about my experience as a gay man, which resonate with a lot of other gay people who share some of my experiences. Some of it's upbeat and fun, just like some of life is upbeat and fun, and some it is darker, like songs about losing a partner to AIDS, or a woman finding out her husband is gay. I get feedback from people that my songs have made them cry. To me, that's a really great thing. Not all emotions are happy happy. This culture says that everything is good if everyone is happy, and that's just not the reality of life.



Joe Archangelini

Gay singer/songwriter Mark Weigle

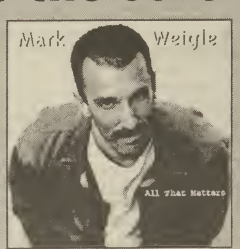
"My stuff isn't ultra-heavy. Even my song about losing a partner to AIDS, which is about my friend's ex-lover, is about learning that the love I had for him is real, and no one will ever be able to convince me otherwise. What we shared through his dying was so powerful and such a gift of love that it reinforced my belief that our love was real, contrary to what everybody insisted about homosexuality when I was growing up."

Mark Weigle's heartfelt music is available from www.songs.com/markweigle, gay bookstores, Ladyslipper and Goldenrod distributors, or, if you must support faceless corporate giants, Amazon.com and its clones. He shares the bill with performing artist Stan Baryla in a benefit for the California Men's Gathering this Friday and Saturday, Sept. 15-16, 8 p.m. at San Francisco's MCC, 150 Eureka St. ▼

REVIEW

Deeper to the core

by Jason Serinus



Rarely does one encounter a fully formed, openly gay singer/songwriter with such universal appeal as Mark Weigle. First there is the voice. Sometimes opened in full declaration, other times a near whisper of intimacies, it is an instrument that seems to speak directly from the man's soul. Whether he is singing of "John," a closeted married man whose "dam finally burst in a 25-cent peep show booth... and now he'll never be the same," or of Charles Anderson, a fictitious partner during World War II, Weigle's voice flows directly from his innermost being.

Then there are the songs. The folk/pop melodies and rhythms are catchy; lyrics are deceptively simple, typified by Weigle's song "Like So": "We say so much instead of/All that really needs to be said./ When we keep it simple/Believe what we know/It's love, and we make it/Like so."

Weigle eschews obscure references in favor of words which speak from his heart to the heart of the listener. The truths expressed in these songs, especially in love songs such as "Green," are universal, speaking to our experience as loving gay people.

Weigle's debut album, *The Truth Is,* featured the direct vocal presentation and simple accompaniment that are representative of what audiences hear in the concerts he performs around the country. In what seems an attempt to achieve a more marketable sound, his new album *All That Matters* uses lots of reverb and overdubbing, as well as more elaborate accompaniment, all of which seems unnecessary, given the beauty of Weigle's voice.

That the haunting beauty of the album's final song, "I Confess," won Weigle an Honorable Mention in the 1999 US Songwriting Competition may relate in part to the fact that it is the most minimally processed song on the album. Be that as it may, all who value music as a way to move deeper to the core will discover great treasure in this album. ▼





OUT&ABOUT

Calendare

by Mark Mardon



Kent Taylor

Virgin Queen 1999 Lucia Love

First-time tranny

It takes more than a village to create a tranny — it takes a Drag Mother, and you're going to need one if you want to win this Sunday's **Sixth Annual Klubstitute Kollective "Virgin Queen Contest."** All the contestants will have them, because they make stars shine. They're gem polishers, and you'd better get one polishing yours if you want to succeed.

Put yourself, for a moment, in the place of a contestant. Imagine the dread of being yet another, eminently disposable "first-time tranny" faced with the daunting task of transforming "him" self into "her" self, exchanging brawn for beauty, bravado for bravada.

Trannies, like diamonds, are carved out of rough material. They start with innumerable human flaws: hairy legs and torsos, darkly whiskered chins, lamentable eyelashes, no hips, no boobs, and unsightly bulges where there ought to be deep clefts.

To fashion some semblance of feminine beauty out of such masculine rot requires the finesse of a fine jeweler, a master trained in sculpting perfection. Only those trannies blessed with the inherited genes of a makeup artist crossed with a costume designer — whose veins flow with pure diva blood — stand a chance on their own of becoming the sort of dazzling, glittery, blindingly beautiful creations we fussy San Franciscans have come to expect and demand of our TVs.

Once you learn to wear chiffon and lace with aplomb (or at least plumb sauce) and get your face all dolled up, you're ready to go onstage to cock your chin this way, thrust your ass that way, and attempt to convince the glowering, cynical, bitchy, know-it-all panel of "celebrity" judges **Dr. Carol Queen, Donna Sachet, Bea Dazzler, Demanda Mann** and **Kennedy** that you're the cat's meow, *purr*ing with eagerness to do anything — *anything* — to get them to vote for you.

If you can survive ruthlessly cutting, scene-stealing hostesses and emcees **Ruby Toosday** and **R.U. Doneyet,** and keep them from upstaging you (as they'll always try to do), chances are fair you won't fall flatter than your breasts. Lord knows there's nothing more tragic than a fallen tranny. ▼

Klubstitute Kollective's 6th annual "Virgin Queen Contest" takes place Sunday, September 17, at New Meat Campus Theater, 220 Jones St. (at Turk St.). Show starts at 8:30pm. $8-$25 sliding (NOTAFLOF). 18+. All genders welcome. Info: 331-1500, ext 3438.



Tino Rodriguez, oil on wood, 16" x 20", 2000

"Material/Myth" paintings by queer San Francisco artist Tino Rodriguez, along with works by Lori del Mar, will adorn the walls of Belcher Studios Gallery. See Friday.

Fri 15

Belcher Studios Gallery

Opening reception: "Material/Myth," paintings of transformation by Tino Rodriguez and Lori del Mar. Tino Rodriguez' works combine details from various cultural mythologies in order to create his own personal myths. His highly detailed miniatures, rendered in luminous colors, depict "a syncretic universe in which all is integrated, whether it be good or evil." Lori del Mar expresses her mythology through multiple layers of patterns and suface textures combined with symbolic imagery constructing psychic landscapes. Musical soundscape by trance/ambient DJ Mark Mardon (Solstice Party). Free. 6-9pm. Exhibit runs thru Oct. 8. 69 Belcher St. Info: 255-8900.

New Langton Arts

The Pneuma Music Group perform Oakland composer Sebastian Robin Craig's "God and the Prostitute," a modern mythological tale written for piano, male and female voice, string quartet and drums — a "still opera" inspired by the haiku form. Craig says his mission is "to create . . . an accessible form of American opera that is: 1. beautiful and belies reverence for all life, spiritual and physical; and 2. disintegrates racial, class, age, and economic barriers in music." "God and the Prostitute" is one part of a still opera in seven movements. Each character is represented by two people, a singer and a dancer. In this tale, God has been exiled from a family of Celestials for being creative. In response, He creates an alternate universe with Earth and humankind at its center. $12 ($10 student/seniors/members). 8:30pm. Also on Sept. 16. 1246 Folsom St. 626-5416.

The Lab

Opening reception: "Wax Museum," a multimedia gallery installation + performance series featuring Nao Bustamante, including documents, residue, spin-offs, books and videos, all tracking the progression of this significant performance artist whose work has been presented on several continents. "Wax Museum" is the space of performance without the performer. When Bustamente does inhabit the space, she uses her body as a source of narrative, her performances acting as a fulcrum for the subconscious, taking the spectator on a bizarre journey, shattering stereotypes by embodying them. Bustamante performs Sept. 22, 23, 27, 28, & 30. Exhibit runs thru Sept. 30 (Wed.-Sat., 2-7pm). Free. 6-9pm. 2948 16th St. (at Capp). 864-8855.

SF Camerawork

Opening reception: "untitled (conjecture)," a photo exhibition examining the unsettling territory of fear, anxiety and psychological disturbance. The constructed imagery of artists Greg Bruce, Anthony Goicolea, Lori Nix, and Melanie Willhide captures the edgy neurosis of modern life, in ways that are sometimes funny but always very dark. Curated by Marnie Gillett, Alicia Miller and Frank Yamrus. Free. 5:30-8pm. Runs thru Oct. 7. 115 Natoma St. 7641001; www.sfcamerawork.org

Mark I. Chester studio

Open studio: "Outcasts," a show of photographs from 1960-2000, featuring 50 images never before exhibited. Not only are these images outcasts in their depiction of radical sex, urban landscapes, body landscapes, and light experiments, they are the oddballs in Chester's collection. Today marks Chester's 50th birthday. $5-$25 suggested donation. 8-11pm. 1229 Folsom St. (btwn 8th & 9th sts.). 364-1820.

Jon Sims Center

AIRspace artist-in-residence Craig Acosta Rowe presents a workshop production of "The Day I Kissed Mike Sanchez," in which he explores the growing borderlands of identity politics. Rowe, a mixed-blood Chicano, mixes memory, performance poetry and traditional theater techniques to navigate the collapsing binaries of queer/straight, Anglo/minority. A solo performer's look at the social processes of gendering and ethnic marking in the 21st century "melting pot." $5-$10 sliding. 8:30pm. Also on Oct. 13 & Nov. 10. Jon Sims Center for the Performing Arts, 1519 Mission St. 554-0402.

Sat 16

Venue 9

"Tear Down the Wall," in which Footloose steps up to the plate and hosts a special fundraiser to help the San Francisco dance community in a time of crisis. The immdiate goal is to enlarge the dancefloor at Shotwell Studios, making this 12-year-old community space more viable for teachers, students, and performers of dance, as well as performing artists of all disciplines. Since the loss of Brady Street Dance Center and Dancers' Group Theatre, as well as the pending evictions of Dance Mission and the SF Dance Center, more space is needed to create new work in SF. Since 1988, Footloose has run Shotwell Studios, a rehearsal, workshop and performance space in the Mission. Performers for the benefit include Joe Landini (Landini Dance), Christine Cali (CaliCo Dance), Kristen Heavy (Element Dance Theater), Todd Courage (Highly Unlikely Studios), Suzanne Saltmarsh, Jessica Adams, and Jason Emanuel Britton and Dancers. 289-2000; www.ftloose.com

SF Hiking Club

Join other outdoor lovers for an urban peaks and canyon hike in SF. Enjoy panoramic views from Tank Hill, Twin Peaks, and Mt. Davidson, followed by the shade of Glen Canyon Park. It's a strenuous 7-mile hike with a 927-ft. elevation gain. Meet 9am at Harvey Milk Plaza (Castro & Market). Club info: 487-6410; www.sfhiking.coms

Ruby's Clay Studio

Opening reception: "Goddess Sculptures & Functional Pottery by Harry Leaf." Leaf employs the Raku firing technique first mastered by the Japanese. It combines fire, smoke, clay, glazes, organic materials, and high heat. Each piece is pulled from the kiln while red hot and immersed in organic materials. All goddess figures are created at Ruby's Clay Studio in the Castro and fired in a Raku Kiln on a farm in rural Santa Rosa. Free. 6:30-9pm. 552a Noe St. (btwn 18th & 19th streets). 437-1642.

ATA Gallery

Other Cinema presents "Project-0-Rama," featuring the East Bay outfit Wetgate! This 16mm projector combo performs with film loops, rear-screens, and live-processed noise. Plus Molli Simon with site-specific projections, including her 3-projector meditation on the rapid change of SF. Other artists will employ double projections, found celluloid, Super8 film cassettes, a "Sensorama" 3-D movie viewer, and many filmstrips. Come early for the 35mm filmstrip give-aways. $5. 8:30pm. 992 Valencia St. 824-3890.

Grupo Sociocultural Hispano

"Celebrando La Independencia de México," a potluck and social gathering for all Spanish speaking Bay Area gay men and their friends. For details, call Javier at 550-0388 or Andy at 522-1894.

Edinburgh Castle

Titters and uncontrollable guffaws will fill this stalwart pub in the heart of Polk Gulch as Laugh Track Productions launches the first of its comedy theme nights: "Gay, Lesbian, Transgender, Transsexual and Other Loose Change Comedy Night," featuring the laughable/loveable Tom Ammiano, the politician mayors love to hate. Each Saturday at the Edinburgh, GLBT comedians will pick up the comedy torch to burn the place down with laughter. $5. 7-9pm. 950 Geary St. (btwn. Larkin & Polk). Info: David Kleinberg, 584-9225.

Red Tractor Restaurant, Oakland

"Lesbian/Bi Women's Painting and Sketch Group." Draw, paint and socialize at different locations monthly. All skill levels & media welcome. 11am-1:30pm.

King Street Garage

Futura presents "Fiesta de Independencia," featuring the sexy new Latino boy-band XS4 (a sexier version of N'-SYNC), along with San Jose's Grupo de baile Azteca, plus Guadalajara's Lourdes de Montecristo. Visuals by Stefan. With DJ Eduardo. Go go dancers, balcony appetizers, and ultimate sound & light. Visuals by Stefan. 10pm-3am. 21+w/ID. 174 King St. (at 3rd St.). Info: 665-6715; www.futurasf.com

The Usual Nightclub, San Jose

Club Papi presents "Mexican Independence Day Celebration," featuring live performance by Sony Latin recording artists *Amor y Pasión*. With DJ Chago spinning hip-hop, old school, and house in the Papi Chulo Room; DJ AZ spins cumbia, salsa, merengue, Spanish pop and house in the main room. Free Mexican-style buffet by La Salsa. Go-Go's Galore. Prize giveaways. 9pm-2am. 21+w/ID. 400 S. 1st St., San Jose. Info: (408) 793-0113; www.papipresents.com

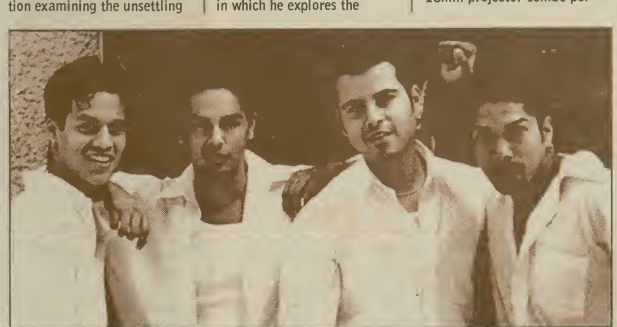
Sun 17

Collingwood Park

"Wild Thing: Cars with Animal Names," the Freewheeler Car Club's 17th Annual Benefit Car Show, raising funds for the National AIDS Memorial Grove. Animalistic and other fine cars on display for your oohing and aahing pleasure. $6 donation. 11am-4pm. 19th & Collingwood streets. Info: 356-9878; www.thefreewheelers.org

Waterworld, Concord

Gus in association with 3 snaps up presents "Gay and Lesbian Day at Waterworld," an all-ages, circuit-style outing for gay men and lesbians, with water slides, inner tubes, and 20 acres of buff, mostly bare bodies. Featuring dance



Hot new Latino boy-band XS4 joins Futura in celebrating Mexican Independence Day at King Street Garage. See Saturday.

sounds by DJs Derek and Bryan Pfeifer. $40 adv.; $50 gate. 10am-6pm. Located 2 blocks east of I-680 (exit Willow Pass Rd.) on Waterworld Parkway, Concord. Info: www.guspresents.com

Most Holy Redeemer Church

Midlife Gay Men (MGM) hosts a free barbecue and membership meeting for all gay and bisexual men in midlife, regardless of HIV status. sponsored by MHR AIDS Support Group. Takes place in the garden. Noon. 100 Diamond St. (at 18th St.). No reservations necessary. Info: 863-1581.

Mama Bears Bookstore, Oakland

Frances Ann Day will be discussing and reading from her new book, *Lesbian and Gay Voices: An Annotated Bibliography and Guide to Literature for Children and Young Adults* (Greenwood, 2000). Free. 3pm. 6536 Telegraph Ave. (at 66th St., btwn Alcatraz & Ashby), Oakland. (510) 428-9684; www.mamabears.com

Plush Room

"An Intimate Evening with Sam Harris" performs selections from his latest CD, "Revival" (Finer Arts Records), along with a repertoire of songs he has performed throughout his recording and Broadway career. $25. 8pm. York Hotel, 940 Sutter St. 885-2800.

Mon 18

Ruby Skye

"Fifth Annual San Francisco HIV Prevention Awards," a twilight to midnight celebration honoring local heroes in HIV prevention, plus an evening of exotic fare, global entertainment, and club dancing. Judith Light, honorary chair. Hosted by Jonathan Karsh and Malou Nubla.Honorees include Carla Clynes, Debra Kent, Mike Shriver, and Paul O'Malley. Entertainers include Sam Harris, Bogo, Veronica Klaus, Pinay, and Kathleen Antonia, with a special performance by Stomp. A benefit for the Stop AIDS Project. Light supper; no-host bar; cocktail attire. $50-$2,500. 6:30pm show; 9pm dance party with DJ Phil B. 420 Mason St. Tix: 575-0160, ext. 260; www.hivpreventionawards.com

Piaf's

QComedy.com presents Gay Comedy Showcase, hosted by Lisa Geduldig, with Darrick Richardson, Janis Lipton, Bob Douglas, Miracle Malone, Bridget Schwartz, and more. $5. 8pm. 1686 Market St. (at Gough). 541-5610.

Tue 19

Metropolitan Community Church

"Exotic Erotica," an evening of fashion and entertainment hosted by Pleasures of the Heart to benefit New Leaf: Services for Our Community, the counseling center for the LGBT communities. Join special guests Fetish Diva Midori, Carol Queen, Joe Gallagher (Int'l. Mr. Leather 1996) and Graylin Thornton for a sensuous show of elegant erotic attire. $50 & up. 7:30-9:30pm. 150 Eureka St. (btwn 18th & 19th sts). Tix/info: 255-0381; www.NewLeafServices.org

Modern Times Bookstore

Shar Rednour reads from *The Femmes Guide to the Universe*, imparting wisdom gleaned from years as a femme consultant for everyone from drag-queen politician Joan Jett Black to Susie Bright to *Girljock* editor Roxxie Rosen. Free. 7:30pm. 888 Valencia St. (at 20th St.). 282-9246; www.mtbs.com



Mark I. Chester opens his studio to reveal his long-hidden *Outcasts* imagery. See Friday.

Wed 20

New Conservatory Theatre Center

"The Other Side of The Closet," by Canadian playwright Edward Roy, a theatre-in-education play that teaches tolerance of gays and lesbians and communicates vital information to teens grappling with issues of peer pressure, youth violence, self-esteem, homophobia, behavior norms and expectations, discrimination and stigmatization, identity and friendship. It tells the story of five hormonally driven teens as they deal with the emotional fallout when one of them is seen coming out of a gay bar. Part of NCTC's Tolerance Educational Theatre Production for Teens. $10 ($7 youth 12 & under). 9:30 & 11:30am. today and Sept. 21 & 26-28; 8pm Sept. 29 & 30. 25 Van Ness Ave. (near Market St.). 861-4914.

Stop AIDS Project

Stop AIDS Project's "New Artists Series" debuts, celebrating gay/bi male artists in all genres whose creations may stimulate discussions relevant to gay men's lives, HIV prevention, and education. Tonight and tomorrow night featuring local filmmaker Wilson. His provocative, often sexual shorts have been described by film historian Steve Anker as "lonely, austere and dangerous." Several of his works will be shown over the two nights, including *Find the Faggot, Chain of Disease, 69 Solutions*, and parts of the *Handjobs* series. Discussion follows screening. Free. 7pm. Also on Sept. 21. 2128 15th St. (at Market). Registration: phone Mike at 575-0155 or email him at mike@stopaids.org

McBean Theater, The Exploratorium

Artists Using Science and Technology present "Ylem Forum: Art from Nature," showing off the natural processes of our bodies and the earth as well as the beauties of the embedded patterns in nature that underlie the machine world we inhabit. Featuring (among other presentations) "Reliquary DNA" by artist Michael Rauner, a mixed-media installation that references the mysticism of Roman Catholicism to address issues raised by the biotech industry; and "Altered States" by Glenn McKay, displaying the light-show technology he developed over four decades working with Jefferson Airplane, the Grateful Dead, and other music groups. Free; open to the public. 7:30pm. 3601 Lyon St. (Marina District). Info: www.ylem.org

ODC Theater

Stephanie Schaaf and Sue Roginski present "In Your House," three evenings of dance and live music. The two choreographers, who for three years worked together as collaborating members of the Margaret Jenkins Dance Company, include their duet "Back and Forth," first performed at Cowell Theater during Summerfest/Dance 1999. "In Your House" is a new work for six dancers. With mucic by Carolyn Ryder Cooley and Anah-K of Down River. $12 Wed. & Thu. $15 Fri. 8pm. 3153 17th St. (at Shotwell). 863-9834.

Thu 21

Embarcadero Center

Noontime jazz featuring the world-class Will Bernard Quartet, presented in conjunction with the SF Jazz Organization. Bay Area guitarist/composer Bernard finds inspiration in a delirious diversity of styles and genres; he's a subtle guitarist whose cross-cultural, era-spanning music ranges from experimental classical to rip-roarding funk. Free. 12:30-1:30pm Promenade level, Two Embarcadero Center (btwn Davis & Front, Clay & Sacramento). 772-0700; www.sfjazz.org

Jon Sims Center for the Arts

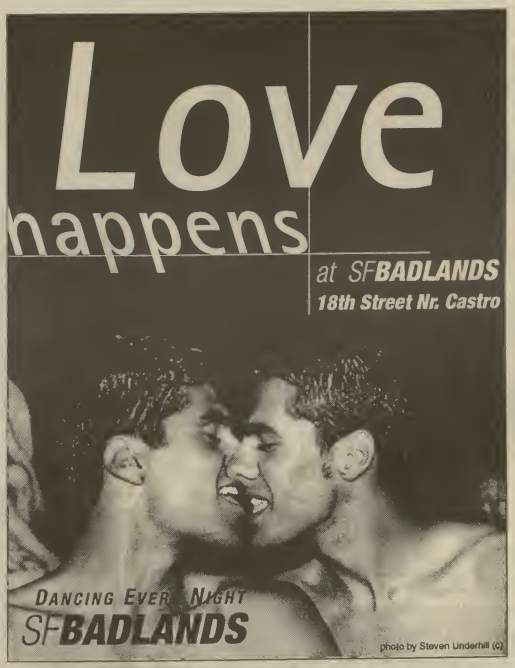
Inaugural event: "LIT @ JSC," the Bay Area's first ongoing queer literary reading series in a non-commercial setting. "LIT @ JSC" will be a monthly series that highlights both major queer writers as well as emerging writers of note. Tonight presenting one of the pioneering lesbian writers of our time, Jewelle Gomez, the award-winning author of *The Gilda Stories* and, most recently, the short-story collection *Don't Explain*. She'll be joined by Marvin White, a leader of BGLAM (Black Gay Letters and Art Movement) and the African American Program Coordinator for the Stop AIDS Project. $5-$10 sliding (NOTAFLOF). 8pm. 1519 Mission St. (btwn 11th St. & South Van Ness). 554-0402; www.jonsimsctr.org

WANNA SUBMIT?

Send your calendar event listings to:

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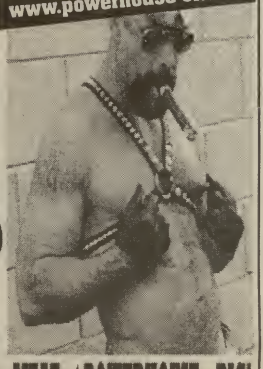
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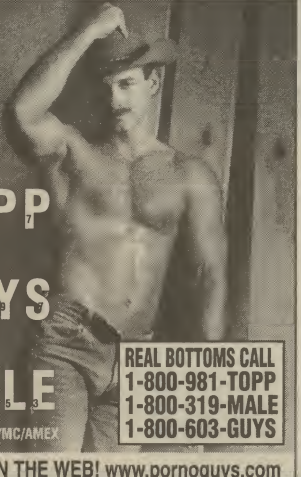
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Leather pride flows from coast to coast

by Mister Marcus

While most leather folk will agree anytime is a good time for leather, September always seems the ideal time. When the Fall Equinox occurs, the celebrations of our lifestyles run rampant. This year, the centerpiece of leather action is not entirely in San Francisco, but stretches from the Bay Area to Florida, with lots of leather interaction in between.

On the eastern seabord this weekend, September 14-17, the competition for the coveted International Mr. Drummer and Drummer Boy titles will take place at the Sun Coast Resort in St. Petersburg, Florida. Mike Zuhl, the producer, has rallied leather folk from all corners of the known leather world to stage the contests. All indications point to a successful event.

Those of you making last-minute plans to attend may find a few spaces left in the resort's bunk-house style accommodations right on the premises, which go for $100 for the whole weekend.

For action and thrill seekers, there will be play parties to engage you, plus a leather mart where you can stock up on essential supplies.

Of course you'll find leading members of the leather community at the event, all eagerly looking forward to the entertainment by Martha Wash. The affair will be emceed by Frank Nowicki, while Int'l. Ms. Leather Jill Carter is in charge of protocol — so you know you'll be treated with kid gloves!

Tom Kiple's staff at Sun Coast are in readiness, and almost all of Florida is enthusiastic and ready to welcome you to this major weekend event.



Walk on the wild side

Back on the flip side of the continent, on Sunday, September 17, Leather Pride Week in San Francisco kicks off with the famous Leather Walk, which departs from Daddy's in the Castro, meanders to various South of Market bars, and winds up at the Eagle Tavern.

After that, hundreds of leather-oriented events will be taking place virtually every night until Sunday, September 24, the date of the 17th Annual Folsom Street Fair.

The city is buzzing with excitement about this year's event. Fortunately, the removal of the Drummer Contest from San Francisco has not dampened anyone's enthusiam for attending the world's largest leather gathering.

Paul Lester, Chairman of SMMILE, has assured me that all the prerequisite work has been done. The more than 500 volunteers that it takes to stage the fair have been briefed, police permits have been obtained, stages with diverse musical entertainment and music will be in place, and we can only hope the weather remains seasonably warm. The prospect seem good: the weather has been breathtaking for the Folsom Street Fair every year minus maybe a couple, so we're hoping

next page ▶

EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Weekend, September 14-17

International Mr. Drummer makes its first foray out of San Francisco this weekend at the Sun Coast Resort in St. Petersburg, Florida; Eight Drummer Men and Eight Drummer Boys will compete for the right to succeed IM Drummer Fraser Picard and IMDB Woodie Barnes. Frank Nowicki will emcee and Martha Wash will entertain. Thanks Fraser and Woodie for a great year with the title. The contest is on Saturday night. I'll be there judging, so you'll get the results almost immediately after the competition.

In San Francisco, John Caldera launches Bay Area Cub weekend to choose a worthy Bear Cub to complete at International Mr. Bear next February. Meet & Greet with a Bears in Boxers party on Friday at the Lone Star; a bear play party at a private location on Saturday, and the actual contest on Sunday, September 17 at the Lone Star, 1500-1700.

Thursday, September 14

Bear cartoonist Fran Frisch launches "Maxx's Big Balls Circus & Slide Show" at the Lone Star, featuring new sets of drawings and a reception for the artist from 1900-2200 (the show hangs until Octobear 3). It's also a beer/soda bust to benefit Positive Resources and Teddy Balls Bears will be on sale.

Friday, September 15

Mark I. Chester's new photography exhibit, "Outcasts," premiers at his studio at 1229 Folsom. It's also his 50th birthday. Suggested "donations" encouraged.

More art: Works to be auctioned off at the 5th Annual Leather Daddies Art Auction (on September 21 at the Eagle) are on display for your scrutiny at Auto Erotica (4077A - 18th St.) from today until the auction date.

Saturday, September 16

Bears of SF beer/soda bust at the Lone Star, 1500-1900, for only $7 with cheap hot dogs and International Mr. Bear Heath McKay in person. To benefit El Ambiente Program of the Aguilas.

Remember Mr. SF Leather Lance Gear's phenomenal Power Shower benefit a few weeks ago? Tonight at 2100, Power Shower II launches with Frank Parker, Joe Stack, Bob Miller and Keith Truitt soaping up au natural! It's a benefit for Bay Area Young Positives — don't miss this one!

Sunday, September 17

San Francisco's Leather Pride Week begins today with the Leather Walk 2000, starting at 1300 hours from Daddy's and winding to South of Market, with pit-stops along the way. Get your pledges in now! Sandy "Mama" Reinhardt takes the reins this year and here's wishing success. Immediately following the walk, which ends at the Eagle, at least six of the 13 Bare Chest Calendar 2001 men will be auctioned off for dinner dates and other goodies. Lenny Broberg presides. Prizes galore. All to benefit the AIDS Emergency Fund. Thanks, Jerry Roberts, for a job well done!

Tuesday, September 19

"Exotica Erotica," an evening of fashion and entertainment, hosted by Pleasure of the Heart to benefit New Leaf Services. Tickets are a hefty $50 and up. Featuring "Midori," Carol Queen, Joe Gallagher and Graylin Thornton. For more info, ring up 255-0381.

Stop AIDS Project presents LeatherFuck "Piss On Me" discussion, focusing on the intricacies of water sports, moderated by Paul Romita, at 1900 in the Stop AIDS office (1268 Folsom). It's free, but you have to register by calling "Mike" 575-0165 or send an email to: mike@stopaids.org.

Wednesday, September 20

Leathermen's Discussion Group meets at 1930 at Club Eros. Subject: "Wrestling, Submission & Roughhousing" (I wonder if Jim "Pins" Provenzano will be there). It's all about close encounters of the "lewd" kind. Call 551-0871.

Underwear Buddies at 933 Harrison. You know the rules. Clothes check mandatory; wear your frilliest or raunchiest undies. Call 863-HEAD.

Weekend, September 21-23

International Mr. and Ms. Deaf Leather 2000 Weekend with the meet & greet on Thursday, September 21 at the Powerhouse. Contest is Friday night at Club Townsend; doors open 1900. Thanks Bob Rourke for a fun year and good luck to all contestants. For more info click on idlcontest@aol.com, or dbs@queernet.org.

Thursday, September 21

5th Annual SF Leather Daddies Art Auction at the Eagle, from 2100 to 2400 hours, with a $7 beer/soda bust to benefit Positive Resources and the Stop AIDS Project.

Friday, September 22

SMMILE Press Party at the Powerhouse, and the "official" launching of the 2001 Bare Chest Calendar. Title holders and leather celebrities galore from near and far will attend. Mr. SF Leather Lance Gear and IMSL Pam Meyer will help me with the introductions. Immediately following the party, the monthly Pecs Party begins, with special guest star Steve "Tit Pig" Hurley. You've seen his videos! Hosted by Chest Men International. Don't miss this event!



A farewell to video

by John F. Karr

It's never too late to be up to date, I always say. So I went out and bought myself a DVD player, and am I glad. They're not expensive, and there's no better way to watch porn. The high-resolution picture and CD quality sound of DVDs are an incredible improvement on videotape, which, like vinyl records, is a clumsy medium which actually consumes itself during usage — and is bulky and unattractive to store. Yet while the sharper picture and surround stereo sound quality are delectable, what's even groovier about DVDs is the accessibility they provide. DVDs have the same instant internal access, to any given second that you want, as does a CD. Think of it: no more rewinding, fast-forwarding, or waiting around with time on your hands when what you really want on them is lube.



Karrnal Knowledge

Got an urge to see Mr. Superstud right now? Pop the disc in and there he is. You can bookmark favorite scenes, keypad in the exact frame at which you want the DVD to start, or simply use the Chapter divisions provided. Once there, you can loop sequences to repeat, and play any number of tricks with how they unfold, with a variety of manipulations unheard of with video. Not only can you view your DVDs backwards and forwards at four increasingly faster speeds that always keep the picture in view, but you can have four speeds of slow motion, from a picture-perfect freeze frame to a smoothly gliding slo-mo. That freeze frame makes a doozy of a keepsake, with neither wiggle nor blur, of any precise second of thrill that works for you, like when the splooge hits its mark, for instance. It makes me wonder why DVDs routinely come with the extras of photo galleries and slide shows, when DVD technology makes the entire movie a photogravure of your own selection.

Watching porn on DVD is so swell that I want to replace my entire porn collection, or at least my few dozen favorites, with their DVD versions. And I couldn't have had a better place to start revamping than with the catalogue of Titan Media, which has been handsomely remastered to DVD for release by Atomic Video. I've been a fan of Titan director Bruce Cam for a long time. He's got a healthy sexuality, and he wraps up butch and romantic in one strong package that delights me.

You rarely find his performers looking like they're doing it for the paycheck. *Desert Train* is a good example of this combo, although it has a touch of melancholy that's a damper for me. Cam honed in on this formula with *Island Guardian*, but then really hit the zenith of his butch-yet-romantic mode in the recent *Eruption*. Although this lush Hawaiian vacation is gloriously filmed, the travelogue footage never overtakes the sex, which is fabulous — playful yet strong.

Shorn of the special effects overlays that obscured the action in its initial release, the "Hardcore Sex Edit" of *Fallen Angel II* makes for a hard-hitting example of Cam's work in a rugged leather-orgy mode. And the earlier *Fallen Angel* has that classic sequence in which Cole Tucker, reduced to tears, whimpers a manly thanks to the guys who've just worked him over with tools of both flesh and rubber. It's too bad Tucker's recently been perfecting his Siegfried & Roy impersonation; check out this DVD to catch a paragon of manliness at his best, most real moment.

But the Titan DVD that's most entranced me is *River Patrol*. After all, it's a showcase for the aggressive and fierce role playing of York Powers, a huge slab o' man with a man-sized slab of meat. Jeez, he's rough. *River Patrol* makes the most of his masterful skill at domination, which sets the tone for the whole film. Everybody gets punished in this one, and they love it, although they most skillfully pretend they don't. Powers is matched with gypsy-eyed Cliff Parker, who was his lover at the time, and the scenes of subjugation they play out are among the most believable I've seen, and especially delectable for their table turning. Powers is as nasty on the bottom as he is on top. I love it when Powers catches Parker loafing by the side of a river and rips off his clothes, throws him down in the mud, and pisses all over him. As Marilyn once said in a similar situation, "It makes me feel goose-pimply all over."

River Patrol also features sinewy über-bottom Max Holden, and the Titan debut of Rusty Samuels, that strikingly white-bodied, red-headed beauty who's nearly as pushy as Powers. Come to think of it, I really love this movie, with its brooding tone of forceful but not forced masculinity, and its aggressive but not demeaning psycho-dramas. And, oh, it's a cock movie, a succession of sturdy beauties each more vital than the preceding, and each gloated over by Bruce Cam's rapt camera. Bless Titan for rushing their videos onto disc, and bless the freeze frame and slo-mo of my new DVD player. DVD is how porn was meant to be seen. ▼

www.atomicvideo.com

Mister Marcus

◀ previous page

Mother Nature will again smile on Faghdad-by-the-Bay.

So go ahead and revel in the celebrations of your lifestyle. There's much to do, many men to meet, many places to go, and only one time of the year to enjoy it all.

I have received approximately 88 press releases for events taking place in the coming days. Of course, space does not permit inclusion of them all, so it was necessary to list mainly leather-oriented events this week.

Rest up and be prepared for the invasion of leather folk from around the world. Be friendly, warm, receptive and helpful. And play safe! ▼



Mister Marcus

Ron Wood, Mr. Northern California Drummer 2000 (left), and Terry Gauchat, Northern California Drummer Boy 2000, travel to St. Petersburg, Florida this weekend to compete in the International Mr. Drummer Finals. Good luck to our representatives!

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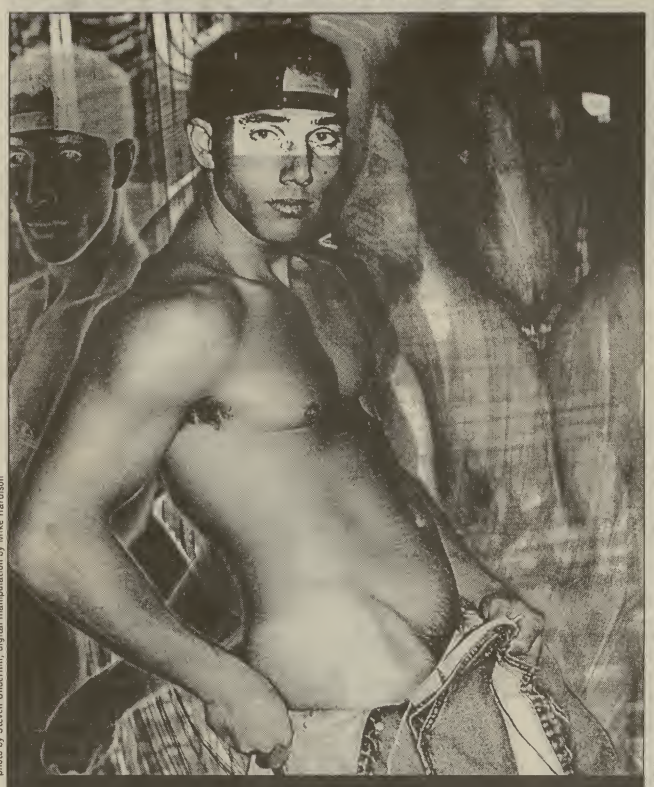


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PARTING GLANCES

Denny-Eagle/Lone Star Sun 8/27
Lost you before exchanging numbers. You: Latino, great smile, hot PA Me: Leatherman, gave you my hanky to flag. In common: brains, masculinity, life-altering childhood event. Let's connect. ☎ 72337

Yasmin At Power Exchange 8/13
Sunday after midnight-- you asked if you could call, I gave name to look up. If still interested, leave message & e-mail or phone where I can reach you. And yes, I love to cuddle! Alan from Oakland. ☎ 72306

Costco Elevator Aug 3rd
I held door open for you. You: Great smile! Dark and handsome. May I have the pleasure again? Dinner? ☎ 72293

Andy, Lush Lounge Sat 7/29
Your great smile and smoldering looks caught me off guard and left me speechless. I would love a second chance to ask for your number. Coffee, dinner, talk? Gene. ☎ 72258

Richmond Bart 8-5 Afternoon
You: shaved head, goatee?, tall, converse sneakers. Me: Asian, shaved head, tattoo. Made eye contact across car. I left @ Ashby; we smiled @ each other thru window. Let's talk. Coffee? ☎ 72257

David And Garth-San Gregorio
Beach. This is David and Woody from Utah. We met Friday 7/28. Had a great time- would like to keep in touch. Please call if interested. ☎ 72259

Sexy Asian Feet In The Park
Months ago I licked mud from your toes while you jacked off. I would love to lick your feet again. ☎ 72290

Rincon Center Thurs Aug 3
Chris. We met in the elevator and met again by the post office. You took my hand. Waited for you at 6:15. Still hoping. Michael. ☎ 72256

Great America Tues 8/22
You: grey shirt, kitaki shorts w/ 3 friends in front of me ,and my friend on Ultimate Sky Dive Ride. Me black shorts, white tank. I'd really like to talk! ☎ 7233B

Kabuki Spa Thurs 8-10 6pm
You (GWM) were coming while I (GAM) was leaving. Shared mutual smiles. You said I was a "good looking guy"; I replied "aw shucks." I'd like to buy you a drink! ☎ 72292

Baker Beach Parking Lot, 8/10
You: gorgeous Asian man giving massage to friend on bench. Me: man in silver car who couldn't take his eyes off you. You left too quickly. Call me. ☎ 72307

~Can't Stop Thinking About U!~
On Muni, we got on @ Church St., rode to Civic Center on B•17 @ 6:30pm. You - White jeans, blue plaid shirt, leather baseball cap. Me red hair, black pants, gray shirt. Call! ☎ 7230B

White Electric Van Blond Goatee
Fri 8/11 at 1pm Diamond Hts.Blvd, Village Square Apts. You: In overalls, asked if I wanted ride downtown. Me: sitting on low wall, blue shirt, blue tennis shoes, said a friend was picking me up. ☎ 72291

Muni Tues Aug 15
You: handsome Asian with great arms & torso. Me: tall, caucasian, goatee, glasses. Sat behind you, rode Muni escalators at Church St. To shy to speak. Coffee? Lunch? Dinner? ☎ 72309

Checked Out At The Check Out
Costco check out. You: tall, handsome blond. In next line over. Noticed tattoo on rt leg. Smiled as you were leaving. Me: green shirt, and pants, with boss. Wish I could of done more than smile! Dinner? ☎ 72294

"Cute Butt"
Tues, 22 Aug, 4 pm'ish; corner 16th/Market: adorable man wearing baseball cap, going to Cafe Flore, met friends....shy muscular Black, admirer, wants to meet you- call! ☎ 72339

A Longshot Wed 8/31 7pm Gold's
Market Street. Me: rushing to Yoga, You: freshly showered. Said "Hi" at sinks. Can't stop thinking about that smile and all the possibilities. Call ??? ☎ 72363

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

GAM Top 4 GWM
GAM seeks mature GWM; HIV- n/s/d; healthy wt/ht proportionate for a friend/more. Slim & golfer a plus but not mandatory. ☎ 72260

Aggressive Asian Men
GWM wishes to meet and establish a long time love relationship with Asian men. Let's hold, touch & kiss each other. I love to suck a long time. ☎ 72261

Big Man For You
Attractive, top, GWM, 50, 350lbs. You: attractive GM (White, Asian, Latin), slim. My arms hold what the world lacks. Hugs & kisses come first. ☎ 72262

Slave Seeks Master
A rare Master is out there somewhere. Seeking strong connection between Master, service, pain/joy, "spiritually," and trust/connection to wholly leap into capable hands. Slave tall/slim defined, 38. ☎ 72263

Gay Eagle Scout Seeks Soulmate
All American guy, seeks outdoors type man for LTR. 45yo, HIV+, no meds, master. Prepared, reg nurse, serious only please. ☎ 72264

Attractive Fun GWM
40 GWM 6'4" 230 professional- All American- seeks 36 to 42- San Jose to SF- 5'8" or taller- single, emotionally available- sense of humor- romantic- dating- LTR. ☎ 72265

RU HIV+ Masc. Top?
Haw/Filp 41 5'5" 152 HIV+ btm w/insatiable appetite smooth affectionate & honest. Seeks masc. top-man w/insatiable appetite in shape or stocky built 30-55 old. For romance to hot nasty times LTR possible. Into cuddling, kissing, massage movies, dinner, rimming. ☎ 72266

ISO Athletic Asian- RU Gym Toned?
Six pack, great abs. Want to meet prof Asian. Call me. ☎ 72267

Young Handsome Russian
Looking for an intelligent Russian or European under 40y.o. to give my body and soul. No disappointment guaranteed! ☎ 72295

Are You Under 5'10"?
SF professional GWM, blond, balding, very fit 43, 5'9", 155, HIV- (ub2), seeks vers. or top. I'm masculine, honest, stable, social drinker with a dry humor. Prefer shorter/fit. ☎ 72296

Hunk Seeks 69 Fanatic In S.F.
Hairy, inshape GWM wants same into mature hunk for mutual oral/nip/ball action. Me: gym'd, hairy, 5'11", 180, 50, HIV+. You: inshape, hairy chest, 40-50, totally oral as me. Prefer Not hung. More than one-night-stand if chemistry, attraction, compatibility. ☎ 72340

Wired Funny
~Black male, 5'10", 1B0, 42, dark, smooth, muscular, masculine, educated professional, into books, cycling, workouts, etc. Straight acting, regular guy; but totally submissive in bed. Seeking muscular, masculine dominant top.~ ☎ 72319

Lets Make A Home
Passionate, intense top looking for life partner. 5'10", 147#, 32yrs. olive skinned professional. Seeks man 38+, mature, stable for monogamous LTR. Not into bars. NS/ND. ☎ 72297

Son Seeks Hirsute Dad
W/M 43, masculine, buzzed, bald, beard, 6', 172, hairy, active submissive, healthy poz. My life is interesting, adventurous and together. Travel, leather, home, enthusiasm. ☎ 72310

East Bay Muscular Guy
Goodlooking 31 year old 5'11", 1B0# 32w. Looking for similar. My dog must like you. ☎ 72347

Professional Black Men
GWM, bottom, always horny loves to lay down and suck you for a long time. I also loved to be fucked on a LTR. Steady sex. ☎ 72311

Hot Bottom Seeks Dominant Top
Looking for hot top to plow deep in me. Into bondage, tight pain & you. I'm 45, White, smooth and need a Master. ☎ 72312

~GWM Looking For Romance~
GWM 53 5'9" 170lb. seeking GWM 40 to 60 HWP for dating, movies etc. (n/d,n/alcohol) interested in a relationship. ☎ 72313

Sweetheart Single Latin HIV+
GLM-37, 5'B"-158lb, athletic/masl, honest. Looking for any race, under 40yrs, smooth & slim. Versatile or top, like movies,dinning regu, like sex ,dancing. ☎ 72314

"Financially Secure Male Wanted"
By a guy who is educated ,intelligent, sexy, good looking. Looking for a relationship or just plain hanging~out. ☎ 72315

GAM 49 Seeks GWM 60 or Over
For LTR, prefer clean shaven and non-smoker. ☎ 72316

All The Wrong Places
Handsome, furred, tall, musical, HIV+ GWM, 36, seeks smart comely, oversexed bottom "boy" with huge vocabulary, nice manners and evil grin for penetrating conversation, PDAs, afternoon nookie and civilized disobedience. ☎ 72317

Bi-Curious RWC Stud
M/W/M, 35, 5'10", 155, glking, sincere, clean, shy yet horny. ISO (1B-35) local studs for hot, discreet encounters... All suggestions considered. S 72320

~Sane, Fun, Normal Guy!!~
GWM, 39, fit, healthy, 6ft, 175lbs, sense of humor, stable, bright seeks GWM 35-45, HIV-; confident, interesting, fun regular guy to date, get to know, LTR? ☎ 72341

"Boy Friend Wanted!"
GWM, 5'8"-200# is looking for a boyfriend between 25-40. (WM, Asian, Latino). This would be someone who would not usually respond to an ad. Must enjoy cuddling up @ home in the evening, going to the theatre, movie, and outings with a few close friends. I am hopeless romantic. ☎ 72342

Hot Bottom, Poetic Soul
Passionate, patient and reliable. Languages, traveled. Well preserved 60. Chunky, hairy, 5'8", br.blu, 175lbs. Prefer bigger but open to all types. Race, age, don't matter if you can do it. ☎ 72343

Only One Thing Missing- LTR
You: Asian Pacific or Latino, probably over 60 (maybe not) Me: attractive, GWM, 5'10", 190, White hair, retired professional. Together: enjoy walking on beach, flying kites, discovering each other. ☎ 72344

Tall Guys Wanted
6'1", 295lbs, clean shaven, handsome caucasian versatile funny down to earth, spiritually aware, established creative professional. Interests, music, movies, outdoors, good outings, quite times at home. HIV- please. ☎ 72345

Friends? LTR? HIV+ East Bay Boy
Aren't there any great looking HIV+ guys looking for a great relationship? I'm 31 y.o. tall good looking & seek a slender cute & hot lover. I'm romantic sweet & honest U82! ☎ 72346

Queer Tantrik Master
Erotic/spiritual ecstasy thru austere lifestyle, chastity discipline, yoga breath meditation, depth sensual involvement with fit prof. GWM 54. For pervert seeking growth/ LTR. ☎ 72364

Seeking Well Hung Top For Play
48, GWM, attractive, average build, sexy and versatile is seeking well hung top of average build for regular play sessions. Safely only! ☎ 72365

Can Old Dogs Learn New Tricks?
Attractive mature WM life long pussy eater seeks senior citizen wlth "6" or more to teach me how to suck your cock. Possible on-call cock service as needed. ☎ 72366

Clean Cut GWM 42
Seeks 35 to 45y.o top 6'3", 200lbs, professional s&p hair, blue/grn eyes, HIV-. Enjoy travel, music, movies & more! Let's do it! HIV-only pls. LV. msg. ☎ 72367

SEEKING ADVENTURE

Spank Me
Cute frat boy 24 needs lover the knee action from a dominant jock brother. China town SF. ☎ 7226B

Generous Handsome Professional
Generous in-shape Asian professional 40 seeks goodlooking in-shape HIV- bottom or versatile guy with class for regular companionship. ☎ 72269

Spanking And Affection
GWM, 49, 5'10", 170, bearded, hairy seeks attractive men, under 50, prefer hairy into hot, sensual, give and take bare bottom spanking along with kissing, cuddling + j/o. ☎ 72270

GAM Seeks Ongoing Sex Partner
Who enjoys cockworship. GWM mature. Versatile; HIV-: n/s/d; slender/slim bottom a plus. Pos LTR. ☎ 72271

Blow Job Service
Asian, 50, 5'8", 150#, goodlooking, HIV-, moustache, cleancut, excellent cocksucker, seeks GWM, HIV-, with hairy body, moustache, goatee or beard on regular basis. ☎ 72272

Sock Washer!
GWM 35, handsome, will appreciate your warm, moist nylon socked feet after a hard day's work. Manual/oral massage feels great while you lie back. Relax, melt, release. Businessmen, waiters, uniform a plus. ☎ 72332

Blk Guy Sks Top Dom Aggressive
+ Raunch, kink, sleaze + eve & some wk ends. ☎ 72273

Shut Up And Ride
35, WM, 5'10", 195lb. blond-blue, muscular, versatile guy wants goodlooking masculine men to fuck with all nite long. Also love to get massaged and jerked off anytime. ☎ 72274

Black On Black
I want a Black man 29 to 55 for fun and more. Let me take out wine and dine you. I am 45, 6'1"lbs. I like B" to 10" of tool on you. ☎ 72275

Bicurious
WM, 6'/1B0/42, gym body, divorced, Irish-Italian, nice package, looking to serve WM, smooth and hung. HIV neg ub2. Let's do it! ☎ 72276

Dominant Black Men Who Enjoy
Using their submissive White fuck toy cocksucker for their personal enjoyment GWM 5'8", 155 hairy and very obedient for you. ☎ 72277

Rape Fantasy: Make Me Take
Your hard thick, u/c meat between my kissable lips, nice, hairy scobes. Non-freak, regular, naturally handsome. 5'11", 155#, 30's athletic, nice. You: Sane, dark(?), playful in-shape-ish: ☎ 7227B

Black Top Wanted
Attractive GBM straight acting, but very submissive, seeking Black tops to orally service and be dominated by. Prefer clean, well built men who can take control. ☎ 72279

Straight Has 3 Part Fantasy
Masculine WM 58 seeking older smaller than normal sized Asian to fuck my face and virgin ass finishing by jacking off on my face. Safe sex practice during ass play. ☎ 72298

Wanna Cum Over?
GWM, 45, 5'9", brown/brown, mustache, in-shape, attractive, HIVneg, single seeks fun-loving healthy hunk 5'8" or shorter. Afternoon tea? Upper Market. ☎ 72299

ISO Top For Weekday Romp!
Versatile cub, 30, 5'6", 169#, trim stache, furry tummy & butt. ISO top or versatile WM 25-45 for ongoing after-work romp. Couples encouraged, facial hair a plus. ☎ 72300

Nympho Asian/American Bottom
Blacks hung thick wanted, 3 to do me at one time. HIV- bottom, likes ff, toys all but pain. Hot!!! SF Bay Area 40's late 30's. ☎ 72301

Hot Italian Sks Big Cock
Hot & horny Italian bottom, 45, 6', seeks studs 1B-40 for the best oral sex and ass eating you've ever had! ☎ 72302

Cute Guy w/Boy Body Loves Butt Play
Sexy, masc, yng 40's, brn/brn, stache, goatee, 5'7", 145# well proportioned, very nice butt, positive attitude, sincere, free spirited looking to hook up and have fun! You: masc, 30-45, 5'B"+. ☎ 72303

Buttfucker Wanted
ISO top, 35 & under, GWM, masc., 6"+. Me: submissive bottom, GAM, 5'9", 160, 35, gdlg, straight acting, into tt, dildos. ☎ 72304

BAR TALK PERSONALS ARE FREE!

You must use this form to submit ads. Deadline for ads is **TUESDAY** at **5 PM,** for the following week's issue. New ads run for three consecutive weeks. You will be notified by mail with information on how to leave and retrieve messages from your mailbox ad. Print clearly. No ads will be accepted without valid address, telephone number and legible text. The *Bay Area Reporter* reserves the right to edit ads. **One ad per customer per week.**

Name _____ Daytime Telephone _____

Address _____ Evening Telephone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

CATEGORY

- Parting Glances ☐
- Seeking Relationship ☐
- Seeking Adventure ☐
- Lesbian ☐
- Fetishes ☐
- Couples ☐
- Others ☐

Headline, 30 characters maximum

Write the rest of your ad here, **30 words maximum**

MAIL FORM TO: BAR Talk, Bay Area Reporter, 395 Ninth Street, San Francisco, CA 94103

Fat Daddies Have The Best Laps
And the fleshiest spanking hands for little lads? Bubble butts, like mine. Slap your meaty thigh and bend me over, butt up, feet dangling, for a hot thorough pounding. ☎ 72321

Oral Excellence
Friendly 49er has opening for 1-2 face-fuckin' studs. Hot mouth, deep throat soothe achin' nuts, restore serenity! Work me, buddy. 8ig tool essential! Trim build, facial hair A+. ☎ 72322

I Wanna Suck Your...
Cock & ass. Do you like prolonged sessions w/a hot tongue buried up your butt? Mouth around your cock? If, so I'm your man. Italian, 45, 6', 195#, rugged build stud w/goatee. ☎ 72323

Torrid Phone Sex!
"Strip!" get it up; lube, cockring, nipple clamps, whatever? Let your imagination run. Let's talk, jack off, and cum! ☎ 72324

Times Change! In Days Of Yore
It was courteous. My proof, I'm a master cocksucker(my guys repeat) you will too! ☎ 72325

Italian Guys I Was Born To
Serve you. No one knows how to please Italians guys better than me. If you're hung, then that's a plus. ☎ 72326

Mulatto Guy. Sexy, Educated,
Intelligent, creative, good looking; seeks guy who are good-looking or hung for fun and good times. ☎ 72327

Your Personal Cocksucker
Talented hungry attractive 37yo guy seeks one easy-going well hung 24 to 44yo to suck on a regular basis. I'm HIV+ your status unimportant. Serious only please. ☎ 72350

Hung Guys Wanted! I'm Looking
For guys who are hung "9" inches or more for fun or good times.Please contact me. ☎ 72328

Gay Artists, I'm Looking For
Gay Artists, so we can get together and discuss art and other things. Please contact me. ☎ 72329

Sprd Yr Cheeks Ride My Tongue
Expert butt eater, 41, 6', 170 brn/blue big bushy moustache looking for hot trim edible butts, George. ☎ 72330

Seeking Wild JO Partner 65+
Masculine straight WM wants to be tied down and have cock tormented until it screams for release. ☎ 72331

~"Hot Submissive Asian"!~
5'8", 140# very smooth, swimr bdy, tight bubl~butt; seeks other 4 bondg, spankg, fstg, groups videos etc. etc. etc. ☎ 72348

Black European
Bottom HIV-, 6'1", 30, masculine, in-shape romantic seeks top, HIV-, 30-50 fit man affectionate who enjoy romance, food, conversation, safer sex encounters. ☎ 72349

Butch Versatile Party Man
Hot & Horny 50 GWM 5'8", 140# HIV+, very versatile with 8" cut cock with big helmet head and ass to match. Looking for partying fuck buddy! ☎ 72351

You'd Never Guess
Average ugly duckling 50's, 6', 200# non-gym, HIV- cut, smoker top, fra/p small package (until excited), then you're gagging, looking for cut younger bottom for fuck/suck fest. ☎ 72371

Una Noche
5'10", 170lbs. GLM early 40's short dark brn hair, brn eyes, mustache seeks hot studs for fun LTR possible friendship. Safety is a must. ☎ 72352

ISO Foot Master
Handsome slender Asian male loves to service attractive dominant men. Verbal a plus. Open to all foot scenes. ☎ 72353

Gourmet Delite
GWM-with big clean feet, cut meat. Cum get naked, let me pleasure you with my older tongue and mouth, love to. ☎ 72354

Seeking Submissive Gdlk'g Boy
Under 40 to serve as my personal property on a regular basis; son, slave, etc. Daddy-Master is 76, attr. and dominant. "Love and Respect shared!" ☎ 72355

"A Great Catch!"
GF seeks WPM European for marriage of convenience or circumstance. ☎ 72333

Dad Seek Son
Mid 50's hairy dad slim HIV- seeks W slim son HIV- who likes to suck 7" uncut cock. ☎ 72356

"Big Tongue, Strong Teeth!"
Let me work over your nipples a lot, then you sit on my big tongue and cum on my chest, older a plus.-Me 57, thick, beard. ☎ 72357

Spank me!
8oy 24 needs over the knee discipline from a dominant brother. Athletic jock in speedos. ☎ 7236B

Pump My Pussy
Italian bottom studs needs it up the ass on regular basis. Three-ways welcome! Five or more, the better! Cum take a ride! ☎ 72369

Palo Alto Asian Cocksucker 42
5'11", 190# blk-brn sks White men with medium to large cock to suck off with no reciprocation, ub on the mid Peninsula, light skin 8lacks welcome. ☎ 72370

What Was Your Teenage Fantasy?
38yo WM 5'7", 120" in-shape seeks other slim White or Asian men to re-live mutual stripping and jo. Daytime preferred. ☎ 72372

GWM 45 Looking To Meet
Others for dating. Me 180#, med bld, 5'9" bn/bn, not furry like vanilla & foot-play with 40+ Men furry A+. ☎ 72373

FETISHES

Daytime Asshole-Eater!
Get your asshole eaten by a pro! ☎ 72287

Two Heads Are Better Than One
8i, W/M in Oakland, HIV+, open and discreet, seeks singles or couples for oral pleasures. Shaved a plus. ☎ 72280

Muscular? Gym Toned? Need Bath?
You: muscular, gym toned, prefer nicely. No strings. I want to give you a bubble bath with no strings. But if it happens, fine. ☎ 72281

I'm A 2nd Slave
And don't come. Am 57 & healthy. You order me to prepare buddy's hole, drink ws,+ watch you screw. I clean you & him, then leave. # ☎ 722B2

Erotic Rope Bondage
Bondage top, GWM, 42, 5'B", 155, good-looking, HIV-, seeks masculine, in-shape submissive bottom, 21-45, for erotic bondage, gags, toys, discipline, light sm negotiable. Safe, trustworthy. SF/East Bay. ☎ 72283

Drag Queen Threesome Fantasy
Me: 8i-male 52, ISO drag-queens for fun: pluses: red-heads, cigar smokers, 69, French, Greek, -j/o, be my teacher. ☎ 72284

Enemamate Desired
40's bi DWM, trim, clean, HIV(-), sincere sensual, discreet seeks exploring all facets. ☎ 722B5

I'll Serve You Deeply
Handsome, sexy, professionals, w/office or quiet rest/room in area during or after business hours. Masculine, clean, discreet. ☎ 722B6

Bootlicker ISO LTHR Granddad
In-shape, 45y/o blond son/bot to provide oral/anal services to hung 60+granddad into s/m, b/d, w/s and other perverse pleasures. ☎ 722BB

East Bay Nipple Freak
P.R/ Cuban B/M seeks masculine men for hot sex and friendship. New to the East Bay/Lake Merritt area. Nipple workers A+. ☎ 72305

Daytime Asshole-Eater!!
Get your asshole eaten by a pro!! ☎ 72334

Slaved Boy Wanted
By leather top, 50's, 6', 225, hairy chest, masc with dungeon. UB submissive oral, bottom into s/m, kink, eager to serve. Muscular, hairy, under 45 pref. ☎ 72335

"Plain-Looking, But Hung!"
East Bay man 47, gets off watching a thick moustache up and down on my thick stick. Oakland area; serious. No beards/goatees, super busy or hard to reach types. ☎ 72336

Farm Dirt Play
Wanted by raunch guy. I am looking for dirty tricks at the farm. I am 49, 6'1", 180#'s gdlkg. and a very horny animal. ☎ 72359

Daytime Asshole-Eater!!
Get your asshole eaten by a pro!! ☎ 72376

Seeking Serious Nipple Buddy
I'm a 45yr old stocky 190# serious nipple pig with huge erect nipples. 8rn/brn, salt & pepper goatee, tatts, pierc1ngs, smoke cigarettes. Looking for a super masc, muscular dominant nip. pig buddy for serious workouts with growth in mind. Please call, smoker ++. ☎ 72374

I'm A 2nd Slave
And don't cum. Am 57 & healthy. You order me to prepare buddy's hole, drink ws, + watch you screw. I clean you & him, then leave. ☎ 72360

Make Me Fat
GWM, 37, 5'10", 240lbs., brown eyes and beard seeks other GM gainer/encourager to make me even fatter. ☎ 72361

Heavy Duty Butt Play
South Bay goodlooking, muscular, GWM, 6'1", 190lbs. HIV-. Into videos, toys, bondage. ISO muscular top for mutual pleasure and expanding limits. ☎ 72375

Tobacco Users
WM 44, 6',160# dk hr & eyes. ISO others who chew, dip, maw for sensual times. Smokers also welcome. Not into pain, s&m, or gay scene. Over 40 A +. ☎ 72358

Feed Me
8earded GWM, 36 & handsome, seeks masc. men to enjoy this pig's mouth. WS, dirty rimming, gentle subordination, gra/p. Cum, relax, open up. ☎ 72377

COUPLES

2 Cocks Are Better Than One
Attractive mature White male seeks couple to take turns jerking-off on my face. Invite a friend or two of yours and make it a facial cum bath party. ☎ 72378

OTHERS

Married, Straight Needs Hung 10+
In Vallejo will travel works in SF. Want hung thick cocks or pretty tvs or and feminine men. ☎ 72289

~Male Companion Wanted~...
Bossy, older, sexy, witty, unconventional bachelor in S.F. wants Boy Friday, Gentlemen's Gentlemen, sexual servant, & Jeeves. Please enquire. ☎ 72362

The Sexiest Guy In Town
Even the sexiest guy in town is not worth risking your life over. Always play safe. Wear a condom and never exchange bodily fluids. ☎ SAFE

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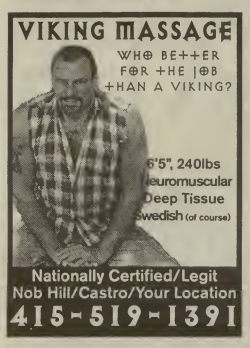
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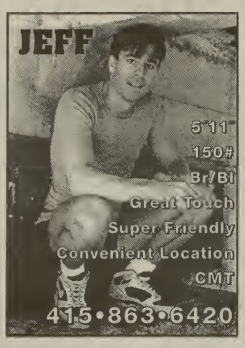
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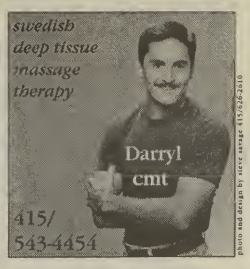
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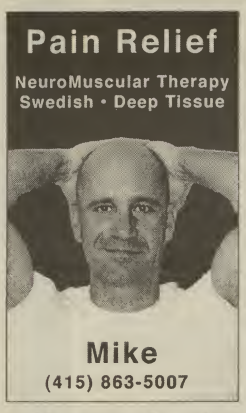
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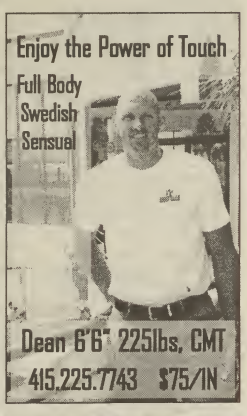
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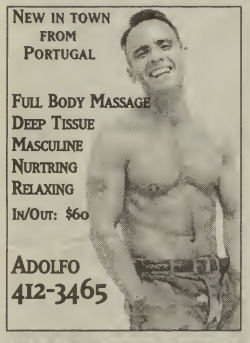


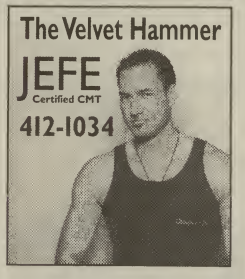














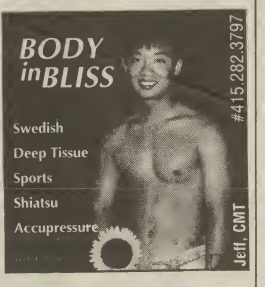






















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A one-day body-oriented experiential workshop for queer men to honor the queer boy, queer man, and queer elder building community. Brochure/info Kirk Prine, EdD, CMT 415-552-7417. Intake interview necessary. http://member.aol.com/drkprine/index-html

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Full Body erotic massage by Blond Muscular surfer in the nude! Come and relax. Sean (510)639-7086

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SUPERB SENSUAL MASSAGE BY Handsome Athletic Asian CMT PVT Clean EZ park nr. SFO best time late night. Call Shin 650-579-3553

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BEST ASIAN BODYWORK WITH NO COMPARISON

Massage that is tailored for your special needs. 415-251-0261

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GREAT BODYWORK

Swedish/Trager/deep tissue. Sensual Nurturing-Replenishing. Call Jef @ 415.706.1630 Mail to jefsfca@hotmail.com

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A real sensual massage for you $100 Out Hotels OK 596-3377

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Older men welcome. Great massage Nude cute guy. Don (415)351-2034

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SYDNEY OLYMPIAN

Warm sensual powerful hands. Hot! Toned, smooth goodlooks. Explore the Outback & Downunder! (415)310-2930 OUTCALLS

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AFFECTION & PRESENCE

Firm, fulbody erotic massage for fit, trim men. Muscular CMT 5'6" 145#gymbody. Nght/Wknd 582-8273

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Castro*Certified*Only $40

**WANNA MELT?*

Jim de Masseur * 415-621-4517

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ACHING FOR A MASSAGE?

Deep, rich, relaxing, strong, therapeutic massage for in-shape guys by 28yr old Spanish/French guy. Student discounts & day/eve late nite appts avail. Eric* 841-5870

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San Jose-Full-Body Swedish CMT $30/hr-$45/1 1/2 hr. In Calls only 6AM until 10PM-7 days - Showers Anthony (408) 288-6169. Air cond.

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NIPPLE PLAY

CHARGING THE BODY AND SOUL A playful introduction to techniques of Erotic Body Prayer. For men working on keeping their bodies and spirits in shape. Intake interview necessary. Kirk Prine,EdD, CMT 415-552-7417 http://members.aol.com/drkprine/index.html

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QUALITY SMOOTH TOUCH

Therapeutic, non-sexual Swedish massage by friendly GAM. Deep, rich, relaxing, soothing. In/out 8am-9pm. J.T. CMT 415-412-4095

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6'2" muscular, very handsome 27 Quality Deep Swedish * 567-2386

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PALO ALTO

Full-Body Swedish massage $75, 90 min. 1(800) 210-5237 http://i.am/anthony.wayne

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SUNSET RAY

Erotic Rub w/release $50 * 415-564-8159

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CMT Masseur From Spain * Professional Massage + Releasing. Oakland Studio.Shower. Nice guy (510)533-0682; Pgr: (510)389-2394

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34yo, Lt Brown,Blue, muscular

TALL6'3"MASSAGE

Swimmer's bld, hairy chest, hot massage 415-414-1639 SF/Marin

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HOT NUDE OIL RUB BY 25 YO

6ft 175 31w45ch, smooth and shaved Great tanline/pecs. Free butthole shave w/massage. Patrick 791-1214

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JOCK MASSAGE

Cute blond grad student 24, gives Swedish Massage 24 hours. (415) 273-5113. Downtown Union Square

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WWW.SFGAYMASSAGE.COM

E45

Relax Release Enjoy a sensual, full-body massage by 37 CMT 90 min. $45 Great Hands. Stan 641-8221

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SIMPLY THE BEST

Hot oil massage by cute German boy 24. (415)929-9224. 24 Hours

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GUERNEVILLE

Sports Massage for men and women Call Glenn at The Gym(707)869-5919

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E.Bay Jock Italian, 6', 180 Lbs Swedish Nude Massage 9AM-9PM **JOHN * (510) 658-2437**

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EROTIC FULL BODY

HOT GUY! GREAT MASSAGE! CALL (510) 232-3825

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BODYWORK NOW!

Swedish • Sports • Deep Tissue by attractive athletic prof. Intuitive • Dynamic • Firm • Touch **TOM LUCCI 510-912-2638**

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Massage by Asian Man in Santa Clara. In $45 Out $60 408-551-0767, 408-828-7847

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Body Electric CMT 36,5'11" 150# offers a wide variety of services which include Tantric, Butt Prostate, erotic enemas, fetish for all info and pics go to web site: **WWW.MASSAGEROTIC.COM** then call Paul (510) 336-1999. My studio hours are 10AM-9PM Visa MC

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PHOTOS AND BODYWORK

outcall msssage and erotic photos of you on Sat. afternoons Markus 916-442-6729 or geocities.com/maleko7

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www.handsontouch.com/spawn

EROTIC 120

$100 (415)255-1164 Derek CMT

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Erotic Massage $45 650-595-1163

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Sexy Latino Boy Erotic Massage In/Out $60 Kevin 415-207-5219

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What Men Crave: Light Erotic Touch/Hot Nudist/346-4966/Ken/ $80

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ITALIAN STUD

Full-body sensual massage, 6'1" Masculine, well-built hairy body **ANTON 925-920-0018 IN/OUT**

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Christopher 45YO 650-595-1163

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EROTIC 24 HOURS

C.M.T. (415) 775-4771 24 HRS.

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NORTH BAY MUSCULAR JOCK

Big hands do a great massage. Reg 7 days/eves 11AM-11PM. Private Justin * 707-586-5945

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HOT HUNG ITALIAN

Expert Masseur 4 your pleasure Outcalls SF only 11AM-11PM 823-3050

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Relaxing &/Or Erotic by a very smth nude masc Asian * 560-6353

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Massage Theray, very good rubdown, nice guy 24 hrs. 415-208-8099

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GET IT

Delivered or come to me for a nude massage for in-shape men by a sexy 31 yr old quiet White boy with big hands 5'7", 150# 415 609 1363

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NUDE BODY TO BODY

29yo 5'10",175Lbs mix-race For In-shape, clean MF6-10pm-SS 517-3386

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EROTIC MASSAGE

by a masculine, hairy-chested guy. Full body, full release massage. (510) 912-8812. SF, Marin, East Bay, San Jose. (510) 912-8812

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20% Discount to other body builders & inshape guys. Great Massage. Mention discount 221-6716. Darryl

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Boyish 45 gymbod sensual massage Strong hands $50 556-3377******

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Midwestern Italian Guiy mascular grt shape gives the best deep tissue Swedish massage. 221-6716 Darryl

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MASSAGE San Jose 408 815-4865

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SAN JOSE

Theraeutic Massage, Deep-Tissue Swedish * (408) 279-8265 * Mike

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SWEET ATTRACTIVE THAI MASSEUR

23, relaxing and healing. In/Out. Patrick * (415) 584-4821

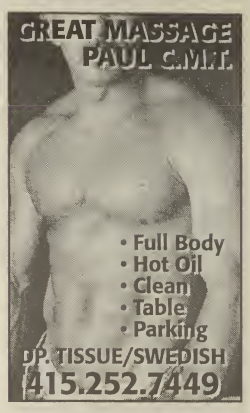
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Magical Massage Mastery that heals while it pleasures from a CMT who knows how to electrify the body. Oak Greg 510-547-1364

E40

PERSONALS

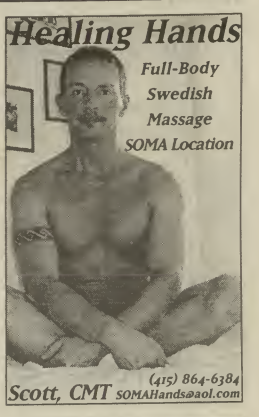
MASSAGE





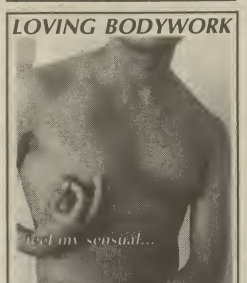




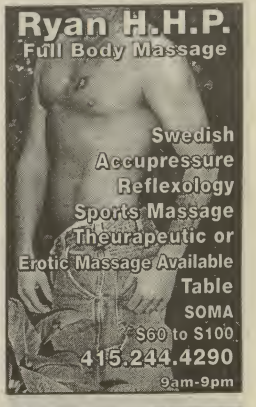




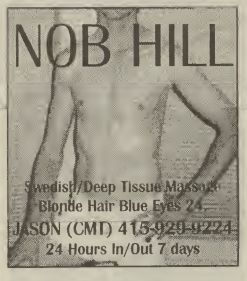






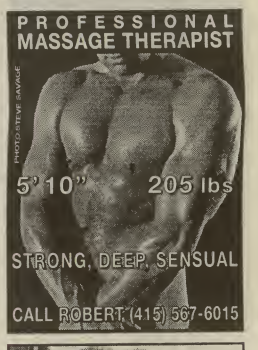
















Eastbay Comfort Warmth & More
Sensual Massage by Nude Masseur
Bob $30/Hr * (510) 843-4408
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Relax you with my hands. Rob, 34, 6'1", 190, handsome $50In/$80out (415) 845-4807
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NICE GUY MASSAGE
Relaxing, Sensual massage by cute Asian. Late nite, weekends. Out only. $60/Hr. * 710-6618
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Italian Handsome Sexy Mature 6'1" 183, well-built, sensual body work Bay Area * (415) 807-9822
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Very light touch for deep inner peace Healing transformation beyond stress trauma, disease & stagnation. Rob 235-4269
LIGHT*SPIRIT*BODY
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HOT NUDE ITL. STUD
Serving S.F. & E.Bay, 6'2" 200Lb., 33 yr old. Hot, erotic massage done in the nude. Ph. Anthony (510) 533-4398
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CUTE SPANISH BOY, 29
Massage nude/Out&In/290-2041 $50
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Lively CMT. In/Out/Hotels 336-8992
FUN MASSAGE*24 HOURS
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Cute Latin Boy Eddy Sensual Nude massage 21y/o 55/hr 5'6" 130 Lbs. 415-245-9721 Friendly
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Sensual/Erotic BI/BI 5'9" 150 In & Out CMT Hotels IAN 251-0174
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EROTIC HEALING TOUCH
By energetic young man, strong butt, goodlooking, to massage well-built men. 5'10", 175#, 30" wst. Hayes Valley 9AM-11PM 305-5609
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FULL BODY MASSAGE
32 Runner
Smooth body great legs + ass
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Thera-Erotic $60 431-9870 x12285
BLACK MUSCLE
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Excellent strong massage deep tissue bodywork by handsome strong Latino Page Sergio 415-207--8123
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WALNUT CREEK
Fullbody energy massage 8am-8pm $35 phr. (925) 256-7135
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ARABIC MASSAGE
DEEP & INTENSE
RADWAND 415-406-8380
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Husky Hairy Naked Tattooed Dad with wide-ranging experience in pleasurable touch. Buzz 863-2094
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TWO HOT MEN FOUR HOT HANDS
Get it Up! Get it off! $75-$120. 510-893-4673
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Fullbody Swedish Massage
By a Hot Latin Boy $45hr Incalls
(415) 346-0752 * Tommy
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EROTIC NAKED RUBDOWN
Smooth & Lean Guy gives very nasty hot oil rub. Scott * 921-1550
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NAKED CMT BRADLEY
$60 * (415) 626-1951
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ASSMASSTER RUBDOWN
by good-looking dude
Hot Delivery David (650) 938-3728
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Mack's "Full-Body" Massage
In & Out Calls - Hotels Too!
When U Knead It. Pgr: 251-0563
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MASSAGE BY LATINO
Get a real massage by a Latin GM 31 Handsome smooth. Call Alfredo 637-2420 * 45 In
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Big, Handsome, hunk will massage you into erotic and spiritual ecstasy-land. Mike * 917-992-4528
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Incredible massage by tall Texas charmer 6'6", 195# 60/in, 80/out Attractive*Attentive*Affectionate
WAYNE*252-7443
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THE GOLDEN BEAR
Incall in Sacto. weekdays
outcalls SF Sat. Markus 916 442-6729 or pgr. 415 251-5683
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TRADITIONAL THAI MASSUER
Young, athletic, experienced massuer
Deep tissue, therapeutic, healing
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SEXY ASIAN
$60 Jim 267-1817
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5'7"X135#Smooth 23y/o relaxing
ASIAN RETREAT
Older Men & touruists OK 790-7888
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Strong,energetic and athletic CMT. In/Out Fernando * (510) 655-4469
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DAVIS * 415-558-0657
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SANTA ROSA HIDEAWAY
Superb massage from Swedish to firm disciplined plus fantasies explored by by mature masseur in country setting. Also group programs and lodging. Roger 707-525-1771. www.sr-hideaway.com
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Healing touch In/Out 650-367-7528
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Simply no comarison. 792-8028
ASIAN GQ LOOKER
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Specializing in Men
FULL BODY MASSAGE
Strong, Nurturing Touch
707-887-9218 Michael CMT
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Sensitive & Experienced CMT from Idaho. Swedish massage. Discreet. In. 415 307-9123 * DEAN
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11+yrs exp. Full Tension Release
MID-PENINSULA-CMT
In/Out, days/eves.Tom 650-345-7318
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FOR ASIAN MEN
Attractive blonde CMT 24, gives Swedish/Deep Tissue massage (415) 929-9224. James 24/7 * Nob Hill
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GERMAN BOY, 24
Cute blonde CMT gives Swedish/Deep Tissue massage using table, hot oil. (415) 929-9224 * Nob Hill
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Total Zone Erogenous Massage
Jacoby 24 hr, 408-814-2295
5'7" 125# Hry Swmrs Bld will trvl
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Therapeutic & Sensual Bodywork
SAN MATEO/SFO
Exp'd, trained, Joe (650) 347-2937
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Full body erotic massage
RUSSIAN RIVER
By well-built sexy stud $50.
Out extra 707-865-2093 *Bob
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FIRESIDE MASSAGE
Unique style therapeutic and erotic massage in frnt of a fireplace. Outcalls available also. Johnny 505-3060
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NAKED CMT BRADLEY
$60 * (415) 626-1951
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MODEL/ESCORTS

Goodlooking, 6'1", 165 Lbs
ASIAN TOP
$80/$100 * JIM 267-1817
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Mike, 35, 5'10", 200#, Bld/Blu
Clean-cut, Muscle Hunk
In/Out $100 (415) 863-8932
E02

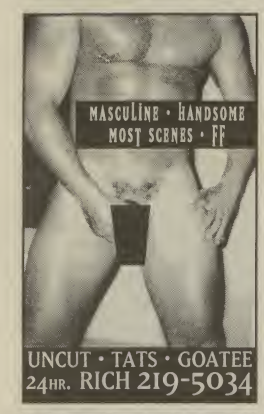
Be the happiest man alive 792-8028
CUTE ASIAN BOY
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LEATHER TOP!
Handsome, Expert Master
Light to Heavy Sensual s/m
TOM 415-487-1296
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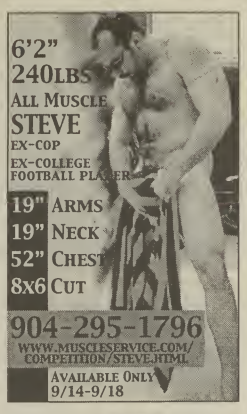
Kicks back for service/oral *24hrs.
10"X 6" *UNCUT*
Big fat tool-552-2370-pgr. 790-6423
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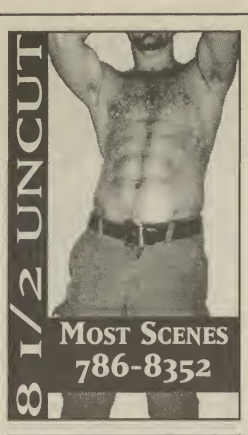
HOT BOTTOM SLAVE
Live to service Men!
Descreet & Passionate In/Out
Dean 415-307-9123
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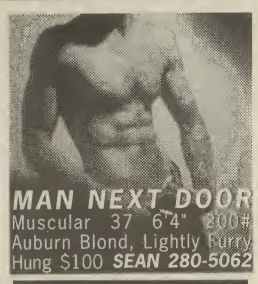
MODEL/ESCORTS



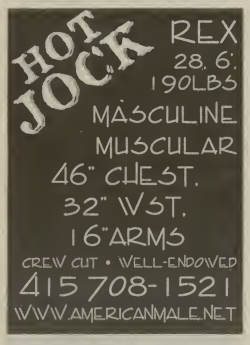




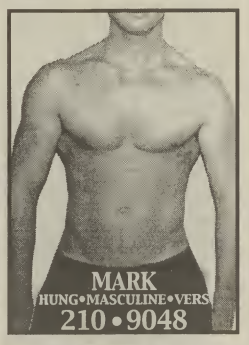




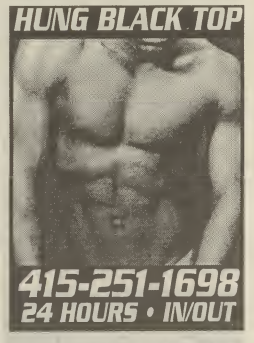






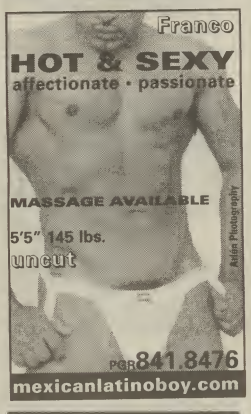


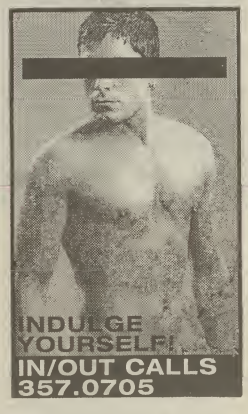


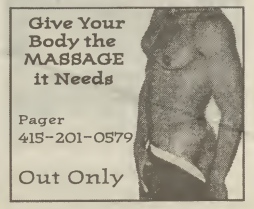


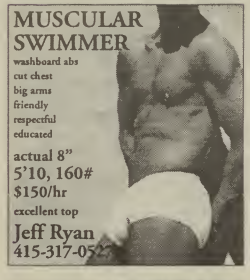






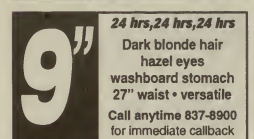












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Cute 32 6' 170 nice smile. Friendly passionate intelligent companionship. Older welcome 415-251-3164 Scott
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BB Bottom In/Marin, Out/Bay Area Ted*(415) 459-3488
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5'7" 135#sexy,slim,smooth 908-8888
ASIAN PORN STAR
Hot,horny,handsome $65in/$85out
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6' 190# hairy 46chs Top age 33 B&D, CBT, TT, S&M, FF, Sling Ray (415) 672-3007
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14 EEE
Foot fetish 837-6112
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Handsome hung Italian 34, 6', 160
CHOKE ON THIS!
Tight lean bod hairy chest/legs all top masc dominant real 10x7 gentle strength & arousing edge intlgnt, verbal, kink-2-vanilla outcalls/hottubs/travl Bay Area 415-256-6743 TomBuStonexxx@aol
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SIZE 12 FEET- HOT- TOP
Gd Lking Foot top 40yo, 6'1", 195# Scott (415) 790-0902 In/Out calls
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BORN TO SERVE MEN
HOT, HUNGRY, HORNY BOTTOM Alek, 242-4230, 24hrs. in/out
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Frat Boy Hunk
Solid Muscular Pecs, Abs & Legs
Deep throat and young jock ass.
5'9",155#,30"w, 8" 739-7312
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Sadistic, Real Leather Master S/M & all scenes. Call Now! Master Tony (415) 674-3638.
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6ft 165 Smooth
Gym built and beautifully hung
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SHAVED,PUMPED AND HORNY
25yo 6ft,175lbs,31w 44ch,7.5 fat/ cut smooth nuts+hole. Totally shaved, trim bush, big nipples/pecs, 24/7 Massage avail. Patrick 791-1214
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Dominant, aggressive, verbal 35y/o masculine, muscular 6' 190# stud. Hairy pecs, big biceps, powerfull legs & butt. Hard 8x6c. 207-9045
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EROTIC NUDE MASSAGE
By good lkng, blnd/bl, 6', swimmer. Friendly, sexy, tender to raunchy 100 in/more out. Ez freeway+Bart Brad (510) 418•0979 (in Berkeley)
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25y/o, 5'11", 172lbs, big, uncut, top, smooth, suave, playful 415 251-0261
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The sculpted 6', 185# blond Adonis. Smooth, defined, satisfaction2thecore. Cleancut hot looks out 310•2930
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Tall blond All American muscle boy kicks/back for oral service classical, good looks hung x thick $140 in/out 567 2386 no drugs
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Very discreet and friendly clean slim built with boyish looks and well endowed also stays hard first timers welcomed out only CEDRIC PGR VM 510 639 6576
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29 year old midwest boy 5'10", 160, military cut, tight body, ripped abs, hung 9 thick cleancut, vers, in/out 902-9477
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33y/o construction worker stud
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22/5'6"/120 Eurazn Btm 415-519-7546
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GEOCITIES.COM/PINOYNSF
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LOOKING FOR A HOTTIE
Sexy Hispanic German 24 yrs hot versatile bottom boy 5'11", 165lbs 9"cut- dark hair eyes round butt
FRED 415 948-5191
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CHARMING
28"w 135# 5'10" 26yo smooth & handsome open-minded & affectionate Mitch 415-393-9020 out only $150 photo at cyberbellion.com
SLENDER BOY
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Naked runner Peninsula & SF 54y/o Big balls $50 out 650-347-2468
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Friendly, aggressive, horny, hung
HOT SKATERBOY
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9x7 Tattooed Rod!
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Hot straight skateboarder and BMX-biker needs help shooting
HIS HUGE SCHLONG!!
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Handsome 23y/o w/packed shorts
SOCCER JOCK
Lean, athletic body- top/vers. Kevin pg #605-5328 in/out 24/7
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BLUE -COLLAR DOMINANCE
Strong, virile, handsome, muscular. 43 5-9 165#. 8"cut. Big nuts. Size 11 feet. Very verbal. Dominate. Great sexual imagination and stamina. Hard-pounding action. Most scenes. In/out.
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35 6ft, handsome, masculine, sexy shaved head, friendly. Smooth body and uncut. Out only, $100 Jon Email/ brainone@mymailstation.com /////// phone 415-820-1471 serious only!!!
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Handsome and sexy jock, Italian 6', 180lbs. Hung 8 inches 10am-10pm
LUCCA (510) 658-2437
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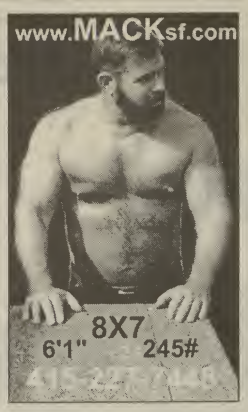
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24, 6', 165#, beautiful face & body seeks obedient subs to service me Antonio 415 225-8275
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AUSTRALIAN GUY
Very good looking/hung guy- blond/blue straight acting/masculine 24/7
Call Rob 415 902-0380
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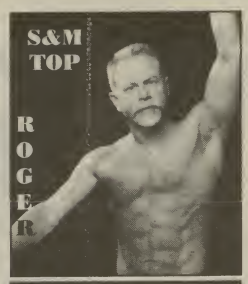
PERSONALS

MODEL/ESCORTS





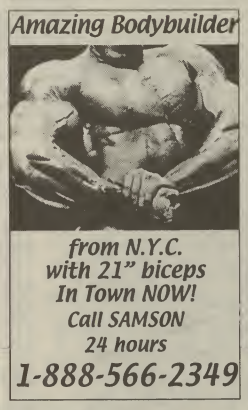




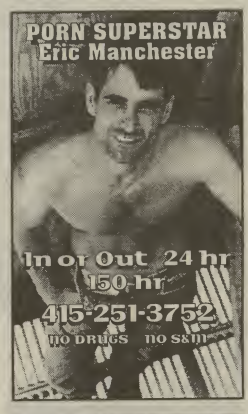
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Call: (415) 775-4771 24-hours E37

5'7", 135 smooth blond 22 playful
SXY NEW BOYTOY
Verstl friendly
Jason 372 0570 E37

NEW IN TOWN
Tall, lean, hung 9", 6', 145lbs. Michael 415-219-1395 E37

Small ff hands for pleasure & relief. 5'8", 135# 30w lean Latin. $100 SF out only. Morlex 679 3320 E39

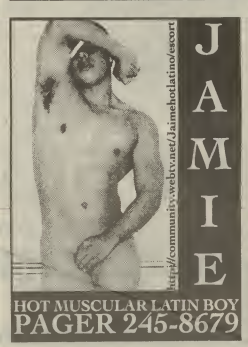
Get Naked/ Relax/ Hug/ Release/ Party/ 8"Nudist/ 346-4966/ Ken/ $80 E39

MARKO
31yo, friendly, good-looking, great
SHAPE, 7"X 6.5", BIG BALLS--
9.5" around! See me at www.m indspring.com/~marko69 or call 415-401-9378. E38

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Lean smooth leather top, 32, gives it like you need it. SIng ff/sm/bd/ws/tt, slave training
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Muscular bottom, lean & smooth Ready & eager to serve you Take control- page Nick 709-1467 E38

23yo gym built beautiful face
BLACK ADONIS
6'0", 165#'s 9x6cut top no attitude drug free satisfaction guarantee 120+ in/out always hard Jason 510 459 6586 serious only! E37



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22yo, 5'10", 160#, thick & uncut
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Tan, lean, hard and smooth body with friendly top energy. Affectionate. Passionate kisser. Call Rick 415-264-8000 (cell) or 415-245-2032 (pgr/vm), 24/7, out. E37

Kickback pro. Keeps it up front and in your face. Handsome, hung & masc. Avail 24hrs. In/out. 6' 28yr. Clint* 414-1030*thick-n-meaty. &
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Need a helping hand? I'm great w/begginners thru advanced. Give it up! Nick-Nob Hill 885-1471 E39

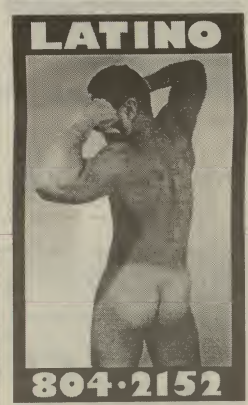
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40yo top 6'1", 195# 7"uncut, flattop Gdlking into bondage, s/m, w/s, f/f, cbt, violet wand, toys, boots. Beginner? Have playspace & equip. Scott(415)790-0902Pg# In or Out E42

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Buzzcut 45, gymbody, tats, sensual Into most scenes in/out 596 3377 E40

HOLES SOUGHT
By hot hung top 888 215 2268 E37

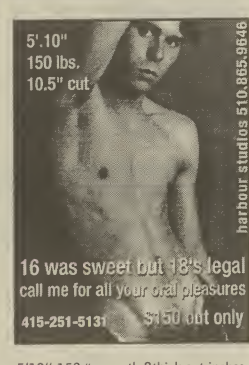
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9X6 UNCUT TOP
28yo. 6'3", 180, sexy, sweet & fun Out only
DANIEL 790-0079 E37

Erotic massage handsome gentle daddy age 45 well hung $75 outcalls only Dave 503-1629 E37





5'10" 150# smooth 8thick cut inches
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Cutetastytightass$120 vers HOT! 24hrs in/out Daron 415 540 3539 E37

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Call me and let's have some fun!
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30Y/O, TOTAL TOP, MASCULINE
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5'9", 150#, buzzcut, goatee & fun
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Able to blow myself!! 6'2", 160#
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1st time bottoms my speciality!
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Horny Spanish top, 9+"x6" uncut
Out only/ Bay Area 415-902-0071
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23y/o, 5'8", 140#
HUNG LATIN TOP
8 1/2x 5 1/2 real inches
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Muscled xxx hotbod sf student
loves hot fantasy & dbl extreme
pleasure 22 yo hung big & long
Page Jean @ 415•219•0726
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29, smooth & muscular for massage
& erotic play, Alan (415) 285-1967
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5'10", 160 very fit body, nice tan!
9.5 & VERY THICK!!! 100%REAL NO BS 'OR'
Don't pay! I am creative, fun
adventuresome, out going & very real
You won't be disappointed!!
24hrs Shane 510-219-9028 cell#
I do live in SF. I do travel!!!!
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6'2"veryhandsome,hung,muscular 27
strictly kick back oral top
$140 out Kevin 377 4304
E39

Awesome bottom
Barry 245-7616 (24hr) XXX
E37

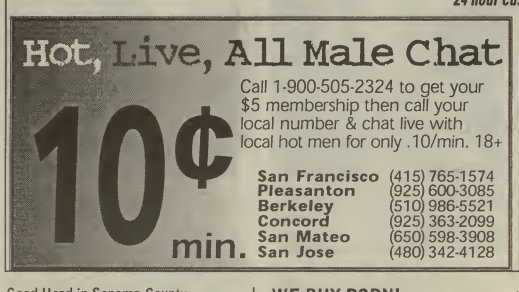
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Willing to do anything for you
5'6", 150lbs. 27y/o and looking
forward to meeting you. (415) 346-0752
Carlos anytime.
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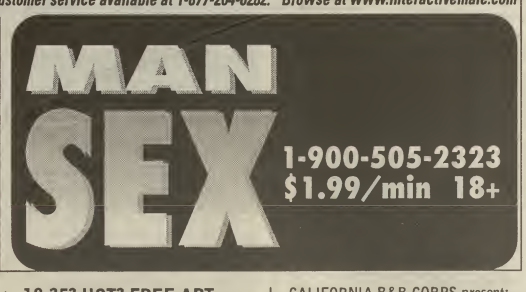
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SERVING YOUR NEEDS.
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dark haired, 35yr. old Greek.
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Hard, tight, butt that can handle
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service for xtra hung. Please, serious
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cut,HIV-wants uncut Latin & Euro-
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Good luck with your title year!
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